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JOURNAL.

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UPTON'S TACTICS.

It has been a subject of comment that we have no system of tactics of our own, but have borrowed everything from Europe; yet when it is remembered how recent is our experience in warfare on any large scale, this is not to be wondered at. Now, however, it is but reasonable to expect that the experience which is leading to such important improvements in every branch of the art of war, should result in the development of methods for increased facility and rapidity in the handling of troops.

In a system of tactics it is always to be borne in mind, as the central idea, that the manœuvres prescribed are being arranged for the *field of battle*—for execution in the presence of the enemy, and under fire. The organization of troops, established by experience and provided for by law, suggests of itself methods of moving them from one point to another, for the simple purpose of reaching a desired locality. A few simple rules for passing along the roads and massing at the places indicated, serve to assemble an army for a campaign. The roads and ways used should be distant from the enemy, where no precaution is required—no danger of surprise to be guarded against—no combinations or concert of action needed on the part of large bodies which it is necessary to bring into coöperation. As an illustration, it is related that in our recent war, a commander, on one occasion, gave a general notification to his forces that they were to be assembled at a designated place, at a specified time, it being understood that the troops were to take their own method of reaching their destination. This, although hardly requiring the preservation even of the regimental organizations, is said to have succeeded for once. The commander, as a matter of course, had the best reason to know that he had the unbounded confidence of his command.

As a matter of fact, in practice, the commands are drawn out and put in motion along the roads, by the left or right, halting at suitable intervals; and thus the day's march is made, without any change in the formation, without any call for a method of using the organizations in concerted movements. But when the troops approach the enemy, and arrive upon the field of battle, the method of handling them—the system of manœuvres to be then and there executed—becomes a matter of paramount importance. The greatest possible rapidity of movement, in taking up and changing position, should be attained; and in the execution of these movements the method devised should be planned so that the troops move by the shortest lines.

The formation should be of as little depth as possible, consistent with the organization, and the object of the movement.

No pains should be spared to render the tactical combinations as simple and easy of execution as possible.

The system of infantry tactics recently prepared by Brevet Major-General EMORY UPTON, U. S. Army, and submitted to a Board of officers for examination, is arranged upon the basis of a division of the company into parts having a front of four men as the unit. A captain having a company of eighty corporals and privates, has therefore simply ten blocks of eight men each to handle. The division of the company into platoons and sections is rendered entirely unnecessary, and is therefore dispensed with.

A striking change from the systems heretofore in use, is the abandonment of the complicated movements by *inversion*. This change was made years ago in the light artillery tactics. Hence the rapidity and brilliancy of the manœuvres in that arm. The idea of a *fixed right* and left, and that all movements must be made to conform thereto, or be subordinated to the preservation thereof, has cramped the tactician, and imposed upon him a set of movements in which much time is lost in bringing his troops into line—time of inestimable value—together with other objections.

It will be readily seen what rapidity of formation into line, facing in *any direction*, is attained by disregarding that idea. For instance, a column, whether of fours, companies, or divisions, *right* in front, is formed into line facing to the *right*, simply by a right wheel (in wheeling into line from column of *fours*, toward the file-closers, they dart through the intervals in the column). The right then becomes the left, and you proceed precisely as though it had been the left from the first.

The necessity for those slow and under fire dangerous movements, *on the right and left into line*, by file or otherwise, is thus dispensed with. Those methods of forming line, we are quite sure, have not been attempted lately under fire. It is related that in a former war, a commander undertook to form his brigade under fire, *on the right by file into line*. Possibly some members of that brigade may remember the result.

The facings, to the right, left and about, are dropped, and replaced by wheeling by fours, to the right, left, or about; thus facing in any direction, with the front rank always in front; there are, therefore, no movements, by the rear rank. There is no countermarch, as the objects of that manœuvre are attained, in much less time, by wheeling about, by fours.

These few remarks and examples will give the tactical reader the key to the system, and will, we believe, enable him to work out any and all the movements, without the text before him.

The great simplification of the tactics is thus apparent. It is far more easy to be comprehended by officers and men, than any they have yet seen. The commands indicate as near as may be the movements to be executed, and how they are to be performed.

Obstructions arising from a broken and wooded country, and from narrow ways—the incidents of American topography—are considered and provided for by suitable movements. There is also a marked improvement in the skirmish drill. The skirmish line is rendered more effective and useful. The supports are utilized by providing for throwing them into the line, thereby strengthening it, when desirable, either for offensive or defensive purposes. Heretofore, however ornamental those supports may have been considered, it must be admitted that, practically, they have rarely, if ever, been of any specific use.

The amount of fighting counted on from the troops thrown to the front for skirmishing purposes has been measured by what was known would be done by the *deployed* line.

As improvements have been made in the weapons of warfare, the depth of the formation has been diminishing, till now that of two ranks is mainly adopted.

A hundred years since, the effective musket range was limited to two hundred yards, the artillery hauled mainly by oxen, the powder carried in bags, the projectile separate, the piece primed by means of a powder-horn, and touched off by a hot iron. Then charging breast works was a very different matter from what it is now-a-days, with rifled muskets, damaging at a thousand yards, and artillery with fleet horses, fixed ammunition, and friction primers.

Many cases arose in the recent war where, owing to slashings, abatis and other obstructions, a single rank, with proper distribution of artillery, was ample to hold the line; and it is believed by many that with breech-loading muskets (and possibly some improvement in the artillery) the *single rank* formation will be generally adopted in place of that of two ranks.

UPTON'S system provides for changing the troops from two ranks into single rank, and for executing all the evolutions in that order prescribed for two ranks. The size of the book is so materially reduced from that of former works on this subject as to constitute, together with two appendices, but a single volume. The first appendix contains forms for the review of a battalion, for guard-mounting, dress parade, escorts of honor, etc., taken from Army Regulations and modified to conform to the tactics. The second appendix consists of a form for dress parade of a brigade; also, forms for the review of a brigade, division and corps of infantry, by Brevet Major-General A. T. A. TORBERT, U. S. Army—forms very much needed, and for preparing which General TORBERT is entitled to great credit.

THE public has been kindly informed that Mr. ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS, late Vice-President of the Southern Confederacy, is writing a book called "The History of the War between the States." And the public is furthermore warned that this will be "the best book on the subject." The title itself of this volume is an affront to the country. The very object of the long and bloody strife, on the part of the Nation, was to prove that the Rebellion was *not* a "war between the States." The blood of those dearest to us, our fortunes and our lives, were staked or sacrificed to prove that it was no "war between States." If a single lesson was learned from the cruel experience of this frightful war, it is that the Government was in arms against rebellious citizens; that the Nation was on one side, and the plotters or abettors of the exploded doctrine of secession on the other. Yet, before the blood of the slain heroes is dry, or the smoke has furled off from the battle-fields, Mr. STEPHENS rushes into print, if we may judge from his title, with a re-assertion of all that is calamitous in our past politics. He was the second civic officer in the Rebellion; and all the world but America looked to see him and his colleague singled out to be punished for their pains. Seeing that he lives by the clemency of the Nation, and has as yet received no pardon, he might well forbear to launch into type on the old secession question, and to head his book with a title expressing the essence of secession.

THE ARMY.

THE Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts in relation to regiments, or detachments of regiments, and all items of Army information of general interest.

GENERAL Orders No. 3, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, publishes the proceedings of a General Court-martial in the cases of several enlisted men. One private soldier of the Second U. S. Cavalry was tried before the court, charged with "desertion" and "theft," and being found guilty was sentenced to be confined for the remainder of his enlistment in such penitentiary as the General Commanding may direct, forfeiting all pay and allowances, and to be dishonorably discharged the service. Brevet Major-General COOKE, commanding Department, makes the following remarks upon the case:

The proceedings of the Court on the first charge, in this case, are disapproved. "It is held that escaping from confinement, while under sentence of a military court, does not constitute the crime of desertion" (Holt's Digest of Opinions, p. 77). A man escaping a degrading punishment for one of the highest crimes, and under the strongest guard, cannot be regarded as abandoning the military service, which is a status of honor.

It is impossible to approve a sentence of confinement for "the remainder of his enlistment" in a penitentiary, both because it would be a degradation for a convict to remain on the rolls of the Army; and that the court offering no record of the length of time, it is unknown what is the extent of the punishment awarded. The proceedings under the second charge are disapproved.

The prisoner will be remanded to undergo what remained of his former sentence when he escaped.

COMMANDING officers and the members of courts-martial during the war frequently differed as to the manner in which they should perform their duties, and from an examination of the General Orders which we receive we notice that cases of such disagreement are still far from infrequent. We clip the following from one of these orders now before us:

The findings of the court in this case on the second charge and specification are disapproved: there being no evidence of actual or intended theft; and the reviewing officer condemns as contrary to all rules of just proceedings, the question by the court: "Has the prisoner behaved at any other time in a mutinous manner toward you?" and this independently of the fact that mutinous conduct is not mentioned in charge and specification. The question by the Judge-Advocate: "Was this the only time that you ever heard the prisoner make any objection to going on guard?" is very objectionable, as is also the Judge-Advocate's (habitual) question: "What was his condition at this time?" Hearsay evidence is also recorded in this case; even invited by question by Judge-Advocate: "Do you know what took place after you left the sergeant's room?" There is no specification of time or place contained in the specification to first charge; the proceedings and findings are disapproved. The prisoner will be restored to duty.

In examining General Orders No. 6, headquarters Department of the Tennessee, which promulgates the proceedings of a General Court-martial that assembled at Newport Barracks, Ky., we find that recruit JAMES KING, alias WM. SCHALLARD, general service, was tried before the court, charged with "desertion" and "conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." The accused was found guilty of the charges preferred against him and acquitted. Major General THOMAS, commanding the Department of the Tennessee, makes the following remarks on the case:

In the case of JAMES KING, alias WILLIAM SCHALLARD, the proceedings and findings are disapproved. The testimony clearly establishes the innocence of the prisoner tried, but by the finding the Court has pronounced JAMES KING, a known deserter, Not Guilty. As soon as the Court became convinced that the prisoner on trial was not JAMES KING, the deserter and thief, the case should have been dismissed before coming to a finding. According to the record the JAMES KING who is known to have deserted and robbed his comrade stands acquitted. The prisoner will be released from confinement and set at liberty.

A PRIVATE soldier of the Fifteenth U. S. Infantry was recently tried before a General Court-martial, which convened at Macon, Ga., charged with desertion, and was found "not guilty," but guilty of "absence without leave." Major-General THOMAS, commanding Department of the Tennessee, makes the following remarks on the case:

The proceedings in the case of Private EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Company G, First battalion Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, are approved. The findings or the first charge and its specification are irregular. The general rule laid down in Holt's Digest, p. 107 (10), would appear to condemn such a finding. It is considered preferable that the prisoner should be left to suffer simply the penalty which follows absence without leave, by operation of law, rather than sustain such incomplete findings, whereby encouragement to loose practice and indefinite judgments would be given. The prisoner will be released from confinement and returned to duty.

A CIRCULAR from the Ordnance Office gives information of the following singular case of spontaneous combustion:

Brevet Brigadier-General HAGNER having reported the occurrence of a well authenticated case of spontaneous combustion at Watervliet Arsenal, it is deemed of sufficient importance to communicate the attendant circumstances for the information of Ordnance officers.

This combustion resulted from the spreading of sawdust

instead of sand, as was ordered, on some linseed oil which had leaked from a barrel. The sawdust thus mixed with oil ignited spontaneously in twelve hours in a cellar where it had been placed in a box, but was discovered, and the fire extinguished without doing any damage. The temperature of the cellar was thirty-six degrees, indicating that a low temperature will cause spontaneous combustion in a mixture of linseed oil and sawdust.

GENERAL Orders No. 5, from the War Department prescribes the uniform of the bands of the Army, and is as follows:

The fifteen bands authorized by section 7 of the act approved July 28, 1866, the stations of which are designated in General Orders No. 87, of October 22, 1866, from this office, will be uniformed as follows:

Those at West Point, Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, Richmond, Va., Charleston, S. C., Louisville, Ky., Nashville, Tenn., Jefferson Barracks, Mo., Little Rock, Ark., New Orleans, La., and harbor of San Francisco, Cal., in the prescribed dress for infantry. Those at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, San Antonio, Texas, and Fort Vancouver, W. T., in the prescribed dress for cavalry. Those at Fort Adams, R. I., and Fort Monroe, Va., in the prescribed dress for artillery.

THE Surgeon-General on the 28th ult. issued the following Circular Order:

It is known that during the war of the Rebellion there were instances of primary amputation at the hip-joint for gunshot injury, performed at field hospitals, and not made the subjects of special reports to this office. With much difficulty the details of several such cases have been collected. It is believed that others may remain unrecorded. In order that the data of the office in relation to this operation may be as complete as possible, you are respectfully requested to report any facts, however slight, within your knowledge, in reference to cases of amputation at the hip-joint in the military surgery of the war of the Rebellion, bearing upon cases other than those enumerated at page 50 of Circular No. 6, Surgeon General's Office, 1865.

COLONEL J. V. BOMFORD, commanding Military Command of North Carolina, has issued the following circular:

In place of fourteen thousand rations required to be kept on hand at depots for issue to the destitute, as ordered in circular from these headquarters, the following amounts will be required: At Raleigh, 9,000 rations; at Wilmington, 8,000 rations; at Salisbury, 8,000 rations; at Charlotte, 8,000 rations.

THE remains of the Rebel General ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON were recently disinterred from the cemetery in New Orleans, and carried to Austin, Texas, for interment. Brevet Major-General GRIFFIN, commanding District of Texas, issued an order prohibiting an extraordinary civic display, to be made in escorting the General's remains to their final resting place, whereupon the Mayor of Galveston telegraphed to General SHERIDAN, commanding Department of the Gulf, asking his authority to the citizens to give a civil escort to his remains. General SHERIDAN's reply is as follows:

SIR:—I respectfully decline to grant your request. I have too much regard for the memory of the brave men who died to preserve our Government to authorize Confederate demonstrations over the remains of any one who attempted to destroy it.

MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD, on the 24th ult., issued the following circular to each commissioner in his Bureau:

Hereafter and until further orders no fees or charges will be exacted by officers or agents of this Bureau for services they may render in connection with contracts between freed people and their employers, either in the examination, approval, witnessing, or registry of such contracts, or otherwise.

Please instruct your subordinates to comply with this requirement. Labor contracts should be in writing. If possible, persuade laborers and employers not to rely upon mere verbal agreements. They occasion much compromise. Bureau agents are required to do all in their power to secure fair contracts for the freed people, and in offering their services for that purpose they should let it be understood that they will be rendered without charge to the parties concerned.

MAJOR-GENERAL SHERIDAN on the 21st ult. ordered one company of the First U. S. Infantry, to be designated by the regimental commander, with at least two commissioned officers, to proceed without delay to Fort Pike, La., and relieve from duty the troops at that place. Brevet Lieutenant Colonel E. P. LORING, with Company E, Tenth U. S. Colored Artillery (heavy), and all attached officers of that regiment, upon the arrival at Fort Pike of the company to relieve them, will proceed without delay to Baton Rouge, La., and report to the commanding officer of their regiment, preparatory to muster out of service.

In the case of two private soldiers of the Regular Army who were brought before Judge S. R. BETTS, of the United States District Court, New York, alleged to be minors and illegally enlisted without the consent of their parents, the Judge held that the act of Congress of February 13, 1862, section two, made the oath of the recruit conclusive evidence as to his age. The case resting on the claim that the soldiers were minors, the writs of habeas corpus in their cases were disallowed, and the soldiers were remitted to their duties and service under their appropriate commander.

In compliance with instructions from Department Headquarters, Brevet Major CHAS. R. WOODS has established

the Post of Dahlonaga, Ga., counties of Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Forsyth, Lumpkin, Union, Rabun, Habersham, Franklin, and Hall, Headquarters at Dahlonaga. All troops serving within the limits of the post, will report accordingly. Brevet Lieutenant Colonel JOHN D. WILKINS, Major Thirty-third Infantry, with Companies A and F, Thirty-third Infantry, will proceed, without delay, and occupy the post.

BREVET Major-General ORU, commanding Department of Arkansas, Headquarters Little Rock, Ark., has issued the following order:

In view of the large amount of public property and stores at the arsenal in this city—the exposed situation thereof within the city limits—and the inadequacy of the garrison to furnish the necessary guard for thorough protection on dark nights, it is hereby ordered that the Chief Quartermaster of the Department cause the erection and lighting of eight gas burners, so distributed within the limits of the arsenal grounds as will best secure the protection of the public interests.

BREVET Major-General DYER, Chief of Ordnance, in a letter to the Secretary of War, states that no contract made subsequent to April 5, 1864, for the manufacture of rifles, carbines and pistols, has been renewed, and none has been extended. With a few exceptions, no increase of prices has been made upon any of these contracts; and if any of these have been sub-let, it has been done without the authority of the Ordnance Bureau, so far as can be ascertained from the records of the office.

In consequence of the time required, and difficulty in communicating between Headquarters Department of the Gulf, and the posts at Dry Tortugas and Key West, through Headquarters District of Florida, those posts have been detached from the District of Florida, and will hereafter constitute a separate district, to be called the District of Key West. Headquarters at Key West. Brevet Brigadier-General B. H. HILL, Lieutenant-Colonel Fifth Artillery, will command the District.

GENERAL SHERIDAN on the 18th ult. directed the commanding officer of the Tenth U. S. Colored Artillery (heavy) to select an officer of his regiment to proceed to Cincinnati, Ohio, and Louisville, Ky., with instructions to take charge of such recruits for the Forty-first Infantry as he may find at these points, and conduct them to Baton Rouge, La., and deliver them to the commanding officer of their regiment at that place.

THE City of New Orleans and its environs, extending to and including Carrollton, Louisiana, and exclusive of Jackson Barracks, is announced by General SHERIDAN as the Post of New Orleans—Colonel EDWARD HATCH, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, to command. The garrison of the post will comprise all the troops within those limits except Company G, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, now on duty at headquarters Department of the Gulf.

THE Secretary of War directs that, when deposits are made to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States by disbursing officers or agents of the Subsistence Department, the original certificates of deposit be sent to the Secretary of the Treasury through the Commissary-General of Subsistence and the War Department.

THE Secretary of War has issued a special order, directing the Commanding Generals of several of the Departments to convene Boards of officers of the infantry arm of the service to examine for second lieutenants in the U. S. Army such enlisted men as he may designate to appear before them.

MILITARY POST AT YERBA BUENA ISLAND.

BREVET Major-General Irwin McDowell has issued the following order, establishing a new post in the Department of California:

Pursuant to orders from the Headquarters of the Pacific, of Dec. 14th, and in conformity with the instructions of the President of the United States, of the 20th ult., a military post is ordered to be established on the Government Military Reservation of the island of Yerba Buena, San Francisco Harbor, Cal. Every person now residing on the island, or in any way occupying it, will be required to take out a lease from the Deputy Quartermaster-General, at Department Headquarters. Quarters for the detachment at Yerba Buena Island will be erected as soon as possible, in accordance with plans and instructions to be communicated by Brevet Colonel R. W. Kirkham, Chief Quartermaster of the Department.

A San Francisco paper says: "The order is a very proper one. The island is Federal property; no individual has been authorized to occupy it, and it is valuable for military purposes. In case a hostile war vessel should slip into our harbor in a fog—a very remote, and yet a possible contingency—the best point from which such a vessel could be annoyed and destroyed would be Yerba Buena Island. If the Pacific Railroad should need the island, or part of it, as many suppose it will, Congress can authorize its sale."

In obedience to the above order, Second Lieutenant E. De Meulen, Second U. S. Artillery, Post Adjutant, Alcatraz Island, Cal., on Dec. 21, 1866, took possession of the above island, commonly called "Goat Island," in the name of the United States Government. A detachment, consisting of one sergeant, one corporal, and twelve men, were left on the island, under the command of Lieutenant Kilbourn, of the Second U. S. Artillery.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

A GREAT crowd assembled at the Sorbonne on Christmas evening, to hear a lecture from Professor HIMLY, on the "Natural Frontiers" of France. The audience expected to hear authoritative arguments in support of the theory daily advocated by the *Pays* and other journals, that the Rhine frontier, Belgium and Switzerland, ought to belong to France. But to the surprise of almost all and the great disgust of some, the learned professor took quite another tack, and laid himself out to show that there was no rational ground whatever for claiming a natural frontier on the northeast of France. He began by laying it down as an incontrovertible proposition, that a river never was and never could be a natural frontier, and as a corollary to this proposition, he instanced the fact that almost all cities are built on two sides of a river. As to the Rhine, it had never even for so much as a quarter of a century been a political frontier. CÆSAR's commentaries showed that the Rhine formed no line of demarcation between Gaul and Germany. There were large tribes of the German population constantly on this side of the stream. The Romans never made the Rhine a frontier. They had always *têtes de pont* and colonies on the other side. Witness Baden, where old Roman baths are yet extant. Neither in the time of CHARLEMAGNE nor in the middle ages was the Rhine a frontier. The first NAPOLEON indeed broached the theory that the Rhine was a frontier, at Campo Formio, but he had scarcely got into possession of it than he went further, and at the conference of Prague refused to be content with the Rhine boundary, which the Allies were willing to give up to him. M^r HIMLY had the courage to conclude before a French audience, that if by the utmost straining of any suggested theory there was such a thing as a natural ethnographic frontier on the east of France, and if that theory were taken as a basis of rectification of frontiers, its consequence would be to give France a part of Belgium, the southwestern part of Switzerland, and the Jura Bernois, but at the same time to strip France of Alsace, a part of Lorraine, and a part of the department of the North. He however rejected altogether the theory of any natural frontiers whatever for France but the Atlantic, the Pyrenees and the Alps, and consequently held that there was no such thing in the direction of Germany, Switzerland or Belgium.

APPROPOS of the trial of PERSANO, a circumstance happened the other day at Genoa, which has been referred to as forming a sufficient defence in itself for the Admiral if he sees fit to present it. A ship in the harbor caught fire, and three vessels of the Royal Navy being at hand, they were ordered to fire into her for the purpose of sinking her. Not one succeeded in hitting her with a single shot, and one manœuvred so badly that she ran herself against some part of the masonry of the harbor works. But this proof of incapacity in the navy will not answer all the charges against PERSANO.

THE Candian war has brought about a little difference between the Italian Government and Turkey, which however has been of quicker settlement than some of the quarrels resulting from our own late war. The *Principe Tommaso*, an Italian vessel out of her course, and in Cretan waters, was fired upon by a Turkish cruiser. The Italian immediately headed for the war vessel, but received more iron salutes. For this diversion the Porte has agreed to pay 52,000 florins for damages to the ship, dismiss the commander of the cruiser, and salute the Italian flag.

A "PROGRESSIVE officer" writing to the *London Times*, on Army organization, says: "In the words of a well-known general officer, the present dress of the Army is an insult to common sense. Although all are agreed that the introduction of rifles, not to mention breech-loaders and rifled ordnance, has greatly modified the conditions of warfare, necessitating greater rapidity of movement and a system of running drill, the dress of the Army remains unchanged. It is not too much to say that the soldier's work now-a-days, when in service, is a compound of that of the Chamois hunter, the American trapper, the Highland ghillie, and the Norfolk game-keeper. Now what would be said if one of these professionals turned out for duty arrayed in a tightly buttoned-up, pocketless tunic, stiff black cloth trousers, badly fitting blucher boots, a knapsack of inordinate weight, with pipe-clayed straps, arranged so as effectually to fetter the free action of the arms, an awkward box, misnamed pouch, to hold ammunition placed in the most inaccessible position, and suspended by a thick, unpliant belt constantly needing pipe clay, the entire equipment being crowned by an incongruous headdress, resembling an ingenious adaptation of an inverted flower pot? Such is the dress still retained for men who in order to win success in warfare, must be prepared frequently to march all night and fight all day. In Summer and Winter, in peace and war, in the frigid North and sultry South it is all one, our soldiers are clothed the same. During our English Winters I have often known soldiers endeavor to meet the decrease of temperature by a corresponding increase of clothing, as for instance by the adoption of what is called the 'Cardigan waistcoat' under their tunic; but it has invariably ended with bursting this stupidly made garment at every seam, its

fit and shape being quite unsuited for any such useful modification." According to this writer every English soldier when fully equipped carries not less than 54 pounds 8 ounces, and the "Light" regiments carry one pound per man more than regiments of the line.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *London Times* at Shanghai, says that the expedition destined to exact reparation for the murder of French missionaries in the Corea has reached its destination, and commenced operations by capturing the city of Kanghoa, where the French admiral awaits a reply to his demand that the three ministers implicated in the massacre may be punished. Several officials of unknown rank have visited him, but have not manifested the awe expected from them, and have been dismissed rather cavalierly and with the intimation that no terms will be listened to until his demand is complied with. An invitation to proceed up the river to the capital to treat with the King was not accepted, as information had been received that a junk loaded with stone had been sunk in the channel, and an army of 15,000 men collected, to oppose their passage. The French officers speak highly of the scenery and climate. The inhabitants resemble the Japanese in their customs and appearance more than the Chinese. This is not surprising, for the coast of Japan is close by, and they are almost entirely shut out from China by a range of mountains. The English had also determined to send a gunboat, ostensibly to inquire the fate of the *General Sherman*, which, with its crew, is reported burnt by the Coreans. But the object is more probably to be on the spot so as to take advantage of the opening of the Corea to commerce, which may follow these warlike passages.

THE Austrian troops in Galicia are being pushed forward from the centre of the country toward the Russian frontier. The Province is crowded with horse and foot. The price of provisions has risen, and the movements of travellers, especially in the vicinity of the troops, are closely watched by the lynx-eyed police. Intercourse between Russian and Austrian Poland, if not absolutely prohibited, is rendered exceedingly difficult, by the neighboring governments jealously warning visitors from either frontier. Both believe they have sufficient grounds for protecting themselves against the emissaries sent for each other's supervision. A Jewish landlord living in a Russian border village, who, according to his wont, had gone to make some purchases at Lisonek, a townlet on Austrian territory, was taken prisoner by a patrol, and narrowly escaped being hung for a spy. Another, and even more unmistakable symptom of what is brewing is the issue by General ST. QUENTIN, the new Commander-in-Chief of Galicia, of a general order enjoining officers to keep a vigilant eye on the Russian priests, and prevent their enticing any more soldiers to desert to the Russians. The order also summons before a court-martial an officer in a rifle battalion who has been too much under clerical influence, and has drawn away some of his men from their allegiance. On the other side, Russian troops are said to have left Warsaw for the south, and there can be little doubt of their destination.

THE popular opposition to the new military scheme of the French commission is so strong and pronounced so boldly that there is every probability that it will be changed. The opposition candidate in a recent election gained the day by a vote of 19,901 to 9,023 for the Government candidate. Three years ago, in the same district, the Government had a majority of 27,603 out of 28,029 votes. This decided difference is in part at least due to the effect of the new scheme, though a part is also to be credited to the increase of liberal opinions in France. The Government candidate tried to offset his opponent's aversion to the measure by half way expressions of dislike, but that would not answer the people.

MARSHAL NARVAEZ of the Spanish Army some time ago issued a proclamation, saying that it is contrary to discipline for military men to form and above all to express opinions on political subjects. This elicited a number of responses from various regiments, declaring their acceptance of his doctrine, with which he was so much pleased that he had them printed in the official paper. But he did not observe that this is in exact violation of his orders. The authors of the addresses entertain opinions on political affairs, and not only that, but express them. To show how readily they submit to his will, they begin by disobedience to his orders.

THE water-propelling gunboat *Waterwitch* has had another trial, when she averaged nine knots, despite the priming of her boilers. On two occasions she was stopped in twice her length by the reversal of the jets.

A BERLIN letter of December 19th says that MAXIMILIAN is kept under the charge of Marshal BAZAINE, and is not allowed to telegraph or write to Europe except on the subject of his wife's health.

A RUMOR is current that the Enfield rifles converted on the Snider plan are causing disappointment to the War Office (December 20th).

THE CHOLERA IN NEW YORK HARBOR.

THE following extract from a report made by J. J. Woodward, Brevet Major and Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, to the Surgeon-General, gives a brief history of the cholera in the military posts near the City of New York:

It appears from the report of Brevet Colonel J. B. Brown, Surgeon U. S. Army, that the first case of cholera appeared at Fort Columbus, Governor's Island, on the evening of July 3d. Colonel Brown says: "This man had been but three days at this post, and came direct from the recruiting rendezvous at Minneapolis, Minn.; nothing of his previous history could be learned." About an hour after the admission of this man into the hospital another case occurred, the patient being a recruit of Company D. Colonel Brown says: "No connection could be traced between these cases." Shortly after the outbreak of cholera on Governor's Island, it appeared among the troops on Hart's Island. The first case occurred on the 8th of July, and during this day and the 9th there were five cases and three deaths. Brevet Major George M. McGill, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army, in the remarks appended to his monthly report of sick and wounded, states that the infection reached Hart's Island without influencing intermediate posts, such as Willett's Point and Fort Schuyler, in the system of recruits sent from Governor's Island. On the 20th of July, troops from Hart's Island were transferred to David's Island, and the same night several cases of cholera occurred in the new quarter among the troops thus transferred. Previously there had been no cholera on David's Island. The cholera cases on Governor's Island, Hart's Island and David's Island, were the only ones reported among the troops in New York Harbor during the Summer, with the exception of a single case reported at Fort Schuyler during the month of July; this case did not prove fatal. The reports from Forts Hamilton and Lafayette, Fort Wadsworth, fort at Sandy Hook, Madison Barracks and Willett's Point, show that no cholera cases occurred at these posts. Moreover, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Hammond, Surgeon U. S. Army, reports, September 26th, that out of about 325 officers and men on detached duty in New York, Williamsburgh and Jersey City, no cases of cholera occurred, though there was much diarrhoea. Out of an average mean strength of 1,721 men, at the posts where cholera cases were reported, there were 181 cases and seventy-eight deaths of cholera, with 1,267 cases and seven deaths of cholera morbus, diarrhoea and dysentery.

FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT U. S. I. (V. R. C.).

THE following is a roster of the officers of the Forty-second Regiment U. S. Infantry (V. R. C.). The Headquarters of the regiment are at Hart's Island, New York Harbor:

Colonel D. E. Sickles, Charleston, S. C., commanding Department of the South; Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. McIntosh, Brevet Major-General U. S. A., Hart's Island, N. Y., commanding general depot; Major T. F. Rodenbough, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., Hart's Island, N. Y., on duty with regiment; Captains C. M. Pyne, Hart's Island, N. Y., commanding Company A; Tully McCrea, Brevet Major U. S. A., Harrisburg, Pa., on regimental recruiting service; W. P. Huxford, Philadelphia, Pa., on regimental recruiting service; C. T. Greene, Boston, Mass., on regimental recruiting service; James W. Powell, jr., New York City, on regimental recruiting service; R. L. Kilpatrick, Brooklyn, N. Y., on regimental recruiting service; Louis E. Crone, Hart's Island, commanding unassigned recruits; First Lieutenants James Joyce, Hart's Island, Acting Regimental Quartermaster; M. J. Hogarty, Rochester, N. Y., on regimental recruiting service; Wm. H. Merrill, Louisville, Ky., on duty in Bureau Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands; Geo. D. Hill, not joined, absent with leave; Second Lieutenants T. F. Forbes, Hart's Island, Acting Adjutant; M. C. Wilkinson, Providence, R. I., on regimental recruiting service; D. G. Risley, Buffalo, N. Y., on regimental recruiting service; Frank Madden, Hart's Island, on duty with regiment; Nelson Bronson, Hart's Island, on duty with Company A.

ABSTRACT OF ORDERS FROM HEADQUARTERS GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE.

FIRST Lieutenant M. Eyre, Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, having reported at Headquarters General Recruiting Service in compliance with instructions from the Board to examine officers appointed in the infantry arm of the service, will report in time to accompany the detachment of recruits which will probably sail on the 1st of February, 1867, for California.

Brevet Captain J. Fuger, First Lieutenant Fourth Artillery, has been granted a leave of absence for seven days, with privilege to apply for an extension of twenty days.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel A. T. Lee, Recruiting Officer, Rochester, N. Y., has been directed to establish a branch to his principal rendezvous at Batavia, N. Y.

Leave of absence for seven days has been granted First Lieutenant Jos. E. Wilson, Second Artillery, Brevet Captain United States Army.

At his own request, Brevet Captain George C. Potwin, First Lieutenant Nineteenth U. S. Colored Troops, assigned to duty with the Ninth U. S. Cavalry, by Special Orders No. 4, current series, Department of the Gulf, has been relieved from further duty at Headquarters District of Texas, and been ordered to report in person to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of the Gulf, at New Orleans, La., for further orders. Second Lieutenant A. H. M. Taylor, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, has been announced as the Acting Assistant Adjutant-General of the District of Texas. Brevet Major-General Griffin, Commanding District of Texas, in thus relieving Captain Potwin from a purely staff position to enable him to join his command in service, thanks him for the personal and official services rendered during the period he has been acting as Assistant Adjutant-General of the District; regards the spirit which inclines him to prefer service with his regiment to duty as justly to be commended, and an augury of success in his future professional career.

CONGRESS.

The most interesting Congressional event of the week to the Army is the introduction, by Mr. WILSON, into the Senate, of a bill to increase and equalize the pay of Army officers. We publish elsewhere the text of the bill, to which we do not need to more than direct the attention of our readers. The same Senator also introduced a resolution, which was adopted, calling upon the Secretary of War to know if any officers appointed under the Regular Army Bill of last Summer have failed to join their regiments; if so, to furnish their names, rank and regiment, with the causes why they have not joined their command.

Mr. DOOLITTLE presented the report of the Joint Special Committee, appointed March 3, 1865, to inquire into the condition of the Indian tribes and the management of Indian affairs, which was read and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HENDERSON offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling upon the Secretaries of War and the Interior to furnish to the Senate any papers or documents in their possession which may tend to explain the cause or origin of the Fort Phil. Kearny massacre.

Mr. WILSON asked and obtained unanimous consent to introduce the resolution calling upon the President for a copy of the report of General WILSON on the capture of JEFFERSON DAVIS. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. LANE introduced a bill amendatory of an act restricting the jurisdiction of the Court of Claims, which provides that the second and third sections of said act shall be so amended that all claims of loyal citizens of States not in rebellion for Quartermaster's stores actually furnished to the United States Army and received for, or which may have been taken by order or sanction of Army officers without receipts being given, may be submitted to the Quartermaster-General, accompanied by evidence of the facts in the case, and it shall be the duty of the Quartermaster-General to cause such claims to be examined, and if satisfied of the justice of the claim, and of the loyalty of the claimant, to report such case to the Third Auditor of the Treasury, with recommendation for settlement, and that similar claims for subsistence, furnished as above stated, shall be considered and acted upon in the same manner by the Commissary-General of Subsistence. The bill was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

There was an interesting discussion of the Military Academy appropriation bill. The aggregate appropriations are \$493,900, comprising the following:

Pay of officers, inspectors, cadets, and musicians, \$151,840; improvement of buildings, \$40,000; removal and enlargement of gas works, \$20,000; increasing supply of water, \$15,000; fire-proof building for public offices, \$15,000; building, etc., for chemical laboratory, \$25,000; for a stable and forage-house, \$10,000.

On motion of Mr. MORRILL, the two latter items were struck out of the bill. Mr. STEVENS moved additional sections to allow cadets the rations now received by acting midshipmen of the Naval Academy, commencing with the date of the law authorizing the same, and allowing the assistant professor of Spanish the same pay and emoluments allowed to the other assistant professors. The first part of the amendment gave rise to considerable opposition and discussion. Mr. RICE, Chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, explained that there were no acting-midshipmen at the Naval Academy, but simple midshipmen, and that they received \$500 a year and no rations. They were only called acting midshipmen when they were in actual sea service, and then they got a ration, as every other naval officer did. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 54 to 44. The consideration of the bill was then postponed.

Indian affairs were brought up by the introduction of a resolution, which was passed, requesting the Secretary of the Interior to furnish information relative to the late massacre of United States troops at Fort Philip Kearny, and to the causes which produced the same. Also to the causes, that in his judgment, have led to the present alarming condition of our relations with the Indian tribes of the interior. The Senate bill to provide for an annual inspection into Indian affairs was then reported back. The original bill proposes to establish five Inspection Districts of Indian Affairs, and five Boards of Inspection, each to consist of three members, one Chief Inspector, to be appointed by the President for four years, one an officer of the Regular Army, to be annually detailed by the Secretary of War, and one to be appointed annually by the President from among such persons as may be recommended by the annual meetings or conventions of religious societies of the United States. Each of the Inspectors, except the military one, is to receive \$4,000 a year in full for his services, mileage and all other expenses; and the military Inspector is to receive the same pay, mileage and allowances as when employed in the military service. These Boards of Inspection are to visit all the Indian tribes within their respective districts at least once in each year; to examine into their condition, etc., with power to suspend for cause any officer or employé of the Indian Department in their respective districts, subject to the approval of the President.

Mr. MORRILL suggested that the bill was an important one, and should not be put upon its passage without being printed. He asked whether it would not involve an annual expenditure of \$100,000. It was replied that the annual expenditure involved would be not more than \$40,000, and would save nearly half as many millions. Mr. SCHENCK spoke of the necessity of transferring the charge of Indian affairs back to the War Department where it had been originally, and of the change, which had made the Indian Department a nest of thieves. He offered an amendment as a substitute which proposes and gives to the Secretary of War supervisory and appellate powers and the jurisdiction now exercised and possessed by the Secretary of the Interior, in relation to all the acts of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and authorizes the substitution of Army officers for civil superintendents and agents. He opposed the Senate bill, holding up to ridicule the proposition to combine in each Board of Inspection a politician, a priest, and a warrior. He supposed the duty of the politician would be to wink at the corrupt contracts made with the Indians; of the priest, to pray for them, and of the warrior to kill them if they did not behave themselves. Mr. RAYMOND asked Mr. SCHENCK whether the Military Committee had received any communication on the subject from the Lieutenant-General of the Army. Mr. SCHENCK replied that the Committee had received a communication in the shape of a report to General GRANT, from Colonel PARKER, one of his staff, and himself, an Indian Chief, covering the whole matter. Mr. HART, a member of the Committee on Indian Affairs, spoke against the Senate bill, which he regarded as superficial in its character, and in favor of Mr. SCHENCK's substitute, which he thought was the best remedy for the evil. He supposed the five churchmen were to be put into these boards of inspection, because the five politicians were considered as subjects of general depravity. But he has heard of such a thing as a church member stealing, and he did not believe that church members would be found entirely incorrupt. The discussion of the bill was then postponed.

Mr. ELIOT, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to fix the compensation of officers of the Revenue Cutter service. It was read three times and passed. The bill fixes the pay from the 1st of January, 1867, as follows: To captains on duty, \$2,500 per annum; to first lieutenants and chief engineers, \$1,800; second lieutenants and first assistant engineers, \$1,500. The pay on leave of absence, or while waiting orders: To captains, \$1,800; first lieutenants and chief engineers, \$1,500; second lieutenants and first assistant engineers, \$1,200; third lieutenants and second assistant engineers, \$900. The second section allows each officer of the Revenue Cutter service, while on duty, one Navy ration per day. The third section appropriates \$133,400 for the expenses of the Revenue Cutter service.

Mr. SCHENCK gave notice that he would to-morrow or Saturday report the Bounty bill, and ask to have it put on its passage. Mr. PERHAM, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made a report to accompany a bill to pension the surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, which was ordered printed. The bill making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions for the year ending June 30, 1868, was ordered to be reported to the House from the Committee of the Whole, with a recommendation that it do pass. The bill appropriates: For invalid pensions under various acts, \$10,000,000; for pensions of widows, children, mothers and sisters of soldiers, \$23,000,000; for Navy pensions to widows, children, mothers and sisters, \$280,000; total, \$33,280,000.

Mr. SCHENCK, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported back, with an amendment, the House bill to equalize the bounties of soldiers, sailors and mariners who served in the late war for the Union; which was ordered to be printed. Mr. ANCONA, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to amend the additional Bounty act of the 28th of July. The bill was ordered to be printed and recommitted. On motion of Mr. COOK, the Committee on Foreign Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of an assertion by Congress of the principles that naturalization by the United States of the native born subject of any other State, exempts such naturalized citizen from the performance of military service under any foreign government, so long as he does not voluntarily renounce the rights of a citizen to the United States.

The Senate joint resolution for the relief of PAUL S. FORBES, under the contract with the Navy Department for building and furnishing the steam sloop-of-war *Idaho*, came up as the unfinished business of last Saturday. The question was on the substitute reported by the Committee on Naval Affairs, simply directing the Secretary of the Navy to accept the steam screw sloop-of-war *Idaho* from the contractor, PAUL S. FORBES, at the contract price, \$600,000. The joint resolution gave rise to considerable discussion, participated in by Messrs. KELLEY, BAKER, SPALDING, PIKE, MAYNARD and RAYMOND. The substitute was rejected: Yeas 57; Nays 84. The question recurred on the

Senate joint resolution which authorizes the Secretary of the Navy either to accept the *Idaho* at the contract price, viz., \$600,000, or to transfer her to the contractor on his giving bonds to refund within six months all advances of money made to him by the Government on account of her construction and equipment. Mr. PIKE moved a substitute, directing the Secretary of the Navy to accept the *Idaho* at the price already paid, \$550,000. It was adopted. The bill as so amended was then passed; 97 Yeas to 52 Nays.

We have received from a correspondent a copy of the *Laramie Scout*, published at Fort Laramie, D. T. The *Scout* is a small but pleasant looking sheet, and is announced as published by Na-pa-ton Pos-co-pee-a-ka & Esh-tah-tie-lah. The terms for subscribers are so decidedly original that we annex them: Terms—one copy per annum, \$5; two, \$10; three, \$30; clubs of twenty, \$1; clubs of fifty, \$25; old maids—Free.

ARMY PAY BILL.

SENATOR Henry Wilson, on the 26th ult., introduced in the Senate the following Army Pay Bill, which was read twice, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

A BILL to increase and equalize the pay of officers in the Army of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for two years from and after the passage of this act, all officers of the Army not entitled to double rations or commutation therefor, shall be paid an addition of twenty-five per centum to their present pay proper, and the pay of all field and other mounted officers shall hereafter be the same as is now provided by law for cavalry officers of like grades.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That section thirty-five of the act entitled "An act to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States," approved July twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, be, and the same is hereby, repealed, and the commutation price of rations for Army officers shall be fifty cents per ration for all officers below the rank of brigadier-general serving with troops, and for the professors and officers at the Military Academy at West Point; the increase hereby authorized to continue for two years from the passage of this act.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That all officers in the Army of the United States who have served by commission in the Volunteer forces in the war for the suppression of the Rebellion, shall have the same rank by brevet in the Army of the United States as the highest rank they held by commission in the Volunteer forces; and the relative rank of all Army officers of the same grade and date of commission, who have served by commission in the Regular or Volunteer forces, shall be determined by the grade and date of such previous commission, whether such previous service was performed as an officer of the Regular or Volunteer forces; and all such officers shall be on the same footing in their respective grades, with regard to rank, promotion, pay, allowances, service, and emoluments, and in all other particulars, any act, regulation, or order to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That section one of the act entitled "An act to increase the pay of soldiers in the United States Army, and for other purposes," approved June twenty, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, be, and the same is hereby, continued in full force and effect for three years from and after the close of the Rebellion, as announced by the President of the United States by proclamation bearing date the twentieth day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That so much of section seven of the act entitled "An act to increase and fix the military peace establishment of the United States," approved July twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, as provides for the creation of fifteen bands for brigades or military posts, be, and the same is hereby, repealed; but the band at the Military Academy shall remain as now established by law.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the act entitled "An act authorizing the President to appoint a Second Assistant Secretary of War," approved February twenty, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That hereafter the professors at the Military Academy shall have the rank, pay, and emoluments of the following grades, viz.: For the first ten years' service, the rank, pay, and emoluments of majors of cavalry; over ten and less than twenty years' service, the rank, pay and emoluments of lieutenant-colonels of cavalry; and after twenty years' service, the rank, pay, and emoluments of colonels of cavalry, and nothing contained in this act shall be so construed as to deprive the said professors or the officers on duty at West Point of the increased compensation authorized by the first section hereof.

Accounts from the Philadelphia Navy-yard report everything frozen hard and fast. The Delaware is firm from shore to shore and covered with skaters of both sexes and of all ages. On the 22d instant a detachment of eighteen marines were transferred to the Washington Barracks for instruction. On the 29th Admiral Tetgethoff, of the Austrian Navy, visited the yard and was received by Commodore Selfridge, and his subordinate officers of the different departments, with the customary military honors. A correspondent informs us that a large and faultless company of marines, under command of Captain G. F. Houston, were drawn up at the gate with presented arms, and, at the last roll of the drum, the howitzer battery, commanded by Lieutenant H. C. Cochran, delivered a salute of fifteen guns with marvellous accuracy. The admiral spent about two hours inspecting the yard and at the hospitable quarters of the commandant. The work on the *Antietam* and *Puskomatoke* advances. The latter is nearly ready for the water. The *Modoc* is ice-bound in the sectional dock.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS SINCE JANUARY 21, 1867.

JANUARY, 21.—Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Captain Albert Barnitz, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for twenty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant E. M. Heyl, Ninth U. S. Cavalry (colored).

Brevet Major George W. Howland, Third U. S. Cavalry, is hereby relieved from Recruiting service. He will turn over the public property and funds in his possession to the Superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service, and proceed at once to join his company in the Department of the Missouri.

The Superintendent General Recruiting Service will prepare detachments of a convenient size of the recruits which are or may from time to time become disposable at the General Depots, and forward them successively, under proper charge, to the regiments hereafter mentioned, serving in the Department of the Platte, until each regiment is filled, in the order named:

1. Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, Fort Casper, Dakota Territory, 190 recruits required.

2. Twenty-Seventh U. S. Infantry, Fort Philip Kearny, Dakota Territory, 125 recruits required.

3. Thirty-Sixth U. S. Infantry, Camp Douglass, Utah Territory, 220 recruits required.

JANUARY 22.—Leave of absence for fifteen days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant George F. Raulston, Tenth U. S. Cavalry (colored).

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel F. M. Hoag, Captain, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops (First Lieutenant Forty-Fourth U. S. Infantry, Veteran Reserve Corps), is hereby detailed for duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and will report to Major-General Howard, Commissioner of said Bureau, for assignment to duty in the State of Georgia.

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment for fifteen days is hereby granted Brevet Major William Bayard, Ninth U. S. Cavalry (colored).

JANUARY 23.—Leave of absence is hereby granted the following officers: First Lieutenant A. B. Kaufman, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, for fifteen days; Second Lieutenant Jules C. A. Schenossky, Seventh U. S. Infantry, for sixty days.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for three months after the completion of his present duty, is hereby granted Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas H. Neill, Major Twentieth U. S. Infantry.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted First Lieutenant Michael Cooney, Ninth U. S. Cavalry (colored).

Permission to delay reporting to his regiment for thirty days, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Douglass Pope, Thirty-Seventh U. S. Infantry.

JANUARY 24.—The following officers are hereby relieved from duty in connection with recruiting for the Fortieth U. S. Infantry, at the places set opposite their respective names. They will turn over to Colonel N. A. Miles, Fortieth U. S. Infantry, Washington, D. C., or the officers designated by him, the recruiting funds and property for which they are responsible, after which they will resume their proper duties:

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. T. Frank, Eighth U. S. Infantry, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Brevet Captain J. W. Clous, Sixth U. S. Infantry, Charleston, South Carolina.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant William R. Maige, Second U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 95, December 17, 1866, from Headquarters Department of the Tennessee, is hereby extended seven days.

Brevet Brigadier-General A. Von Schrader, Assistant Adjutant-General of Volunteers (Second Lieutenant Eleventh U. S. Infantry), is hereby authorized to remain on his present duties as Acting Assistant Inspector-General Department of the Tennessee, until further orders.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Augustus R. Egbert, Twenty-First U. S. Infantry, with permission to apply for an extension, if necessary.

Captain Thomas W. C. Moore, Fortieth U. S. Infantry (colored), will report to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Department of the Gulf, for duty.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for six months is hereby granted Major H. B. Fleming, Thirty-Seventh U. S. Infantry.

THE U. S. STEAMER MADAWASKA.

The following is the official report of the trial of the machinery of the *Madawaska*:

UNITED STATES STEAMER MADAWASKA, }
New York, January 22, 1867. }

Sir:—We have the honor to state that, in accordance with the instructions of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, bearing date of June 9, 1866, we have witnessed the second contract trial of the machinery of this vessel, and would respectfully report:

The trial commenced on the 1st instant, at 10:36 a. m.; the Sandy Hook light-ship bearing due west, distant about one mile; the engines were run at as high a speed as could be maintained without heating the journals, and was gradually increased until 3:55 p. m. on the 15th instant, when the speed was reduced by order of the captain on account of the ship straining and working uneasily; the average number of revolutions made per minute up to that time (3:55 p. m.) was 46.19, and the number of miles run by observation 354.1-2; on the 16th instant, at meridian the run to the southward was completed; the distance from Sandy Hook light-ship being 516.7 miles by observation, the average number of revolutions made per minute being 38.84. At 2:12 p. m. the vessel was headed for the Sandy Hook light-ship, the engines and boilers performing well, and the steam jets were opened shortly afterward. At 4:30 a. m. on the 17th inst., a heavy head gale having sprung up, the engines were slowed down by order of the captain, and were run afterward to keep steerage way on the vessel, the attention of all hands being directed to the preservation of the vessel. From our observations made

during the time the machinery was in operation, both in fair and bad weather, we have no hesitation in saying that it is our opinion that the machinery of this vessel is capable of fulfilling the guarantees of the contract with the single exception of the vacuum, which is 1.1-2 inches less than that required. The boilers performed remarkably well, and did not foam in the slightest degree. The average speed of the vessel during the run to the southward was 11.14 knots per hour by observation, and 10.9 knots by the chip log; the average number of revolutions made per minute was 38.84. On the return run the average speed of the vessel per hour by chip log was 13.57 knots, and the average number of revolutions of engines per minute was 48.29.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,
ELBRIDGE LAWTON, Chief Engineer, U. S. N.
JOHN S. ALBERT, Chief Engineer, U. S. N.
JOHN H. LONG, Chief Engineer, U. S. N.
To Chief Engineer B. F. ISHERWOOD, U. S. N.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1867. }

General Orders No. 5.
The following memorandum of orders and instructions issued by the Quartermaster-General or received at this office during the week ending January 26, 1867, is published for the information of officers of the Quartermaster's Department.

(Signed)

D. H. RUCKER,
Acting Quartermaster-General,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

Under General Orders No. 252, of August 3, 1864, from this office, and in accordance with the provisions of section 23, act of July 28, 1866, the following-named officers will constitute a Board to examine and report upon the qualifications for appointment in the Quartermaster's Department of such persons as may be ordered before it. The Board will meet in this city, January 24, 1867, and will be governed by such regulations as they may receive from the Quartermaster-General:—Brevet Major-General Charles Thomas, Assistant Quartermaster General U. S. Army; Brevet Brigadier General Charles H. Hoyt, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Volunteers; Brevet Brigadier-General Marshall J. Ludington, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Volunteers. S. O. No. 35, A. G. O., January 22, 1867.

Brevet Major John L. Woods, Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers, will report in person to the Commanding General and to the Chief Quartermaster, Department of the Arkansas, for assignment to duty in that Department in connection with disinterments. S. O. No. 44, A. G. O., January 26, 1867.

Before a General Court-martial which convened at Nashville, Tennessee, on the 18th of July, 1866, and of which Brevet Brigadier-General W. R. Shaffer, Colonel Seventeenth U. S. Colored Troops was President, was arraigned, tried and sentenced, Brevet Major Henry Howland, Captain and Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Volunteers. By order of the Secretary of War, the sentence in his case is hereby remitted and Brevet Major Henry Howland, Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers, will be mustered out of service, to take effect this date. General Court-martial Orders No. 6, A. G. O., January 19, 1867.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ADMISSION TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES.
To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

Sir:—It seems very wonderful to me that Congress in its present reformatory campaign should pass over, without the least notice, one of the greatest abuses at present existing in the United States. I mean the present method of appointing candidates to the Military and Naval Academies. By the present law each member of the House of Representatives may have one cadet at the Military Academy and three at the Naval. Beside these, the President has the privilege of appointing ten or fifteen candidates more from the sons of officers, etc.

This law was enacted, I believe, many years ago, when the Congressional districts were about one quarter of their present size, and the sons of influential men alone were thought worthy to be officers in the Army and Navy. To be sure, in some Districts some of the middle and poorer classes have now and then managed to get an appointment under this law. But these districts, like prizes in a lottery, are few, especially so at the present time, the late war having inspired many with a desire for a military or naval life. The members of Congress are at present almost pestered to death during the small fraction of the year their district sees them, by the number of the aspirants. Their time is too precious to be spent in looking into the merits of each individual candidate; therefore all are informed, except the select few comprising the sons, etc., of their most intimate and influential friends, that they can give them no hope! Should they call upon them until the day of judgment, they can get no further encouragement. In this manner by far the greater majority of the applicants, no matter how many qualifications they may possess, are wholly shut out from both Military and Naval Academies, through no fault of their own, but because their father, uncle, cousin, etc., are not influential men. When the cream of the youth of the country are thus passed over, what wonder is it that more than two-thirds of every class that enters are discharged from inability to proceed in their studies? The appointments from my own city during the last six years, to my personal knowledge, to both academies, have been four. Two of these were cousins, and the third lived on the opposite side of the same street. Such is the law at present, and at such law, especially in a country like this, every one has a right to complain. Ought despotic France teach the United States liberality in respect to its national academies? While the admission of the candidate there depends only on his own qualifications, shall it depend here, in America, "the land of the free," on the length of his string of friends?

It seems to me at least rather anomalous, and that if Congress should so far abate the law as to allow five, or even more, to be appointed to each academy annually, by a written competitive examination, the nation would in no

respect lose by it, and Congress would have the profound thanks of hundreds of youths now disappointed of their darling object in life. When it was proposed last session that the standard of admission at West Point should be increased, a certain member rose and stated that if it was so increased the poor would have no chance of admittance. Were he a member of the House instead of the Senate he would very soon change his opinion. He would then know that it is as hard for a poor boy to enter either the Military or Naval Academy as for a "camel to pass through a needle's eye." If they were required to learn Arabic they would have more reason for being content than now. They would then have a standard to which they could look forward with hope. Let, therefore, every one desirous of securing admittance to the National Academies, based on qualifications instead of favoritism, send in their petitions to the Chairman of the Military and Naval Committees in the Senate and House. SIGMA.

CONTRACT TRIAL OF THE MACHINERY OF THE U. S. FRIGATE FRANKLIN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

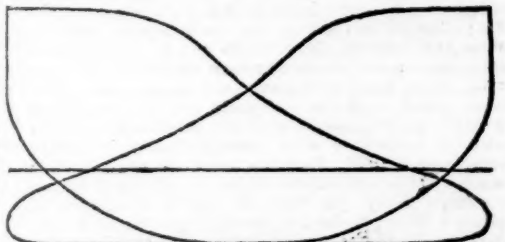
Sir:—The contract trial of the machinery of the U. S. frigate *Franklin* has just terminated. It was made with the vessel secured to the wharf of the Charlestown Navy-yard, as she is not in commission, in fact, is not completed in her joiner work and rigging.

The object of the trial was to ascertain if the contractors had fulfilled their guarantees of good workmanship and good material, their responsibility extending only to those stipulations, as the work was executed from the drawings furnished by the Bureau of Steam Engineering.

I enclose two sets of indicator diagrams, taken from both ends of both cylinders. These diagrams are originals as they came from the instrument with the notes of the engineers by whom they were taken. The main valves cut off the steam by lap, and the rate of expansion is variable by the Stephenson link from three-tenths to two-thirds of the stroke of the piston. The points of cutting off shown in the diagram are slightly within these limits. There is no independent expansion valve.

The subjoined is the fac-simile of one of the indicator cards sent:

STEAMER FRANKLIN.	
Date.....Jan. 4, 1867	Press. steam..... 32
Hour.....10 p. m.	Throttle..... 2 1/2
Which engine.....After	Vacuum.....20 1/2
Which end of cyl.....Both	Barometer.....
Rev. per min.....32	Temp. hot well.....100 deg.
Temp. injection water.....30 deg.	Temp. discharge water.....74 deg.



The following extract from the official report of Chief Engineer John W. Moore, U. S. Navy, conducting the trial for the Government, will show the character of the performance:

NAVY YARD, BOSTON, MASS., January 19, 1867.

The trial was commenced on the afternoon of the 14th instant, and has continued for 120 consecutive hours, during which time the machinery has operated in the most satisfactory manner. The engines have been run as high as 39 revolutions per minute, the bearings all remaining perfectly cool, and at no time has a particle of water been used upon any of the journals. The average amount of vacuum during the run has been from 26.5 to 27 inches, occasionally going as low as 26 inches and as high as 28 inches. The boilers are entirely satisfactory.

MR. WILSON'S PAY BILL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir:—Does Senator Wilson consider that a captain of engineers, in charge of the construction of a fortification or work of harbor improvement, is less deserving of increased compensation than a captain of cavalry? Certainly, we must assume that he takes this view, and that he believes that the duties and responsibilities of the latter are the greater of the two. With certain special exceptions, engineer officers cannot "serve with troops" in time of peace, but the opinion of the writer is that the duties and responsibilities of that corps are, beyond comparison, more important than those of line officers, grade for grade. Mr. Wilson's bill seems based upon the idea that an officer stationed at a fort half a dozen miles from a large city should have very much higher pay than one stationed in the city itself—at least this will be the practical operation of his bill, if it becomes law. I do not grudge to line officers the increased ration price which Mr. Wilson's bill proposes, but I do think that there are others who need it, and deserve it, at least as much. E.

EXAMINATION BOARDS FOR VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir:—Late in the war an order was issued from the War Department authorizing a Board to be convened at the headquarters of each brigade for the examination of all officers as to their moral and physical ability and general fitness for the service. Certain grades of qualifications were established, and, among others, the question was asked each one, "Do you wish to remain in the service?" Those answering in the affirmative to be designated by affixing a star to their names. These reports, of course, were sent to Army Headquarters, thence to the War Office. Now, sir, as the war was virtually at an end (for this order was issued June, 1865, I think), and a speedy mustering out of volunteers daily expected, what was the object of the War Department?

EX-ADJUTANT.

St. PAUL, MINN., December 17, 1866.

SUMMARY COURTS-MARTIAL IN THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—The Naval Summary Court-martial has no doubt, been surrounded in its operation by too much of form and ceremony to admit of the advantage to the service that might be derived from it. To require an order from the Secretary of the Navy, or the Squadron Commander, as the new law seems to contemplate, to enable the commander of the vessel to avail himself of its aid, but further complicates the matter, making still more unwieldy a structure already too cumbersome for active and efficient usefulness. It is difficult to perceive in what material respect the so-called "Summary" Court-martial would then differ from the general court, except that, for the former, only three members are required, and the punishments are of limited severity.

The law of 1855 was intended undoubtedly to meet such cases as required a somewhat minute investigation, and in which the offence alleged, if proven, would call for a more severe punishment than the commander was empowered to inflict. To render its operation truly an aid to the commander, the process of trial should be unattended by forms that retard the speedy settlement of cases brought before it. Heretofore not infrequently a sentence to the most severe punishment a summary court was competent to inflict, and the one that offenders should have most dreaded, i. e., solitary confinement on bread and water, practically gave to a prisoner a desirable sinecure berth, or could not be awarded, the place of confinement being so generally within sight and hearing of the ship's company, and so public, that intercourse with the prisoner by any one so disposed could be had, and food supplied to him in spite of the vigilance of master-at-arms and sentries; courts were forced consequently to resort too often to sentences of stoppage of pay, and reduction of rate only.

To answer the need of the service, and to maintain an efficient state of discipline, as far as minor offences are concerned, there should be a court summary in fact as well as in name; dispensing with the tedious, troublesome, needless, deliberate forms connected with the present system. Empower commanders of vessels to summon three officers of the grades specified by law, by an order written in a book appropriated to the purpose, to the capstan or quarter deck, the order supplying name and rate of prisoner, and a succinct statement of the offence alleged; let this court be sworn, then and there, without needless delay, in presence of the prisoner; have witnesses called through the officer of the deck, let them be sworn and have their names, rates, and the facts elicited and tenor of the testimony of each, so far as affects the guilt or innocence of the accused, noted in few words by the Recorder in the book immediately under the order; following let the Recorder note in explicit terms the finding and sentence; let members and Recorder append their signatures, and the latter return the book to the commander as evidence of the execution of his order. Such process would reach the true merit, and elicit the facts of any case that should not be tried by a general court; would enable the accused to avail himself of all circumstances favorable to himself; discipline would be maintained by summary action, and the ends of justice subserved without unnecessary delay; the book, an ink-bottle and pen, the capstan, a fife-rail, bit-head or pin-rack, supplying all needful paraphernalia, and no change in the law of 1855 is required to give to the service the means of rendering every ship more efficient.

A prison upon the guards, in cockpit, passage or shaft alley, with such conveniences that the prisoner might be retained there without leaving during the short term of his sentence, would be of material aid to the commander.

L.

OUR MILITARY SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR:—The Secretary of War in his report says: "Past experience shows that should any national emergency require a larger force than is provided by the peace establishment, armies would be swiftly organized to at least the full strength of a million of men." This statement is much truer now than it will be in the future, not perhaps with regard to the numbers, but certainly with regard to the swiftness with which the armies may be organized. It would be no difficult matter to organize armies now when military knowledge—of drill, organizations, and equipment—is so widely diffused as at present. But let a generation pass in peace and quiet under our present military system, and we shall be precisely in the condition in which we were when the Rebellion commenced, when one whole year was required before our troops were sufficiently skilled to operate successfully on the offensive.

It is quite remarkable that neither in the Secretary's report nor that of the Commanding General or the department commanders, is there a single recommendation for any change or improvement in our military system. This cannot be because our system proved so perfect in the late Rebellion that it cannot be improved, or because we have not learned anything in this remarkable war. One would rather attribute it to the belief that we are not to have any more wars, and therefore no military system is necessary. On the contrary, the defects of our system were fearfully prominent during the war. Military men trembled for the country in consequence, and tremendous strides were made in the profession, and yet no radical changes, not even the correction of prominent defects, are recommended.

The wonderful facts so concisely stated by the Secretary reveal the power in the country and its capacity, if properly regulated. The calamities of war are lessened in proportion to the discipline and system with which it is carried on. The Rebellion required four years for its suppression. Two first-class Powers in the past year commenced and ended a war in seven weeks, that promised to be as great as the late Rebellion when it began. The Prussian military system is the most perfect in Europe. The short duration of the war is due to the perfection of the military organizations, while success and victory crowned the most perfect system.

The Rebellion however, was not the war to show up the defects of our system so well as a war with a foreign Power, for the reason that both the combatants labored under the same defects, because we were fighting among ourselves. But suppose that at Bull Run we had marched out to meet a Prussian army, so far as relates to perfection of military

discipline and organization, does any one doubt that the vanquished would have been pursued across the Potomac, and the Capital have fallen an easy prey to the pursuers? We would have been overrun before we could have brought our great powers under control.

What is required is not a standing Army, for that is not compatible with our republican institutions; we should at no time have an Army beyond the necessity of the occasion. But we need a system that will fix the place of every man in the country in case a war does come upon the country. Every man should be required to perform his part, and should know his place beforehand. A class of persons should be entrusted with the conservation of the military art, its progress and improvements, who should be required to diffuse it at the proper time when the occasion transpires. One efficient instructor can soon prepare a regiment for the field if he is an experienced officer. Under our system, however, there is nothing to prevent any man of influence, however inexperienced in military matters, from obtaining the command of a regiment, and holding on to it indefinitely, or as long as it will hold together under his command. Such was too frequently the case in the late war, and will be so again unless some change in our system is brought about.

Now, while the experience of the great war is in the minds of those who took part in it, is the time to perfect our military system and prepare for the future. If we do not do it now, as time passes our capacity to improve upon our present system will weaken as well as the desire to do so, and in all probability when the country is in peril again, it will be too late, for we all know how nearly the country escaped destruction. That this is an important question, is apparent from the fact that the French, who have always taken the lead in military matters, are gravely considering the question of reform in their military system, heretofore considered a model for other nations.

Everyone remembers the fearful mortality among the troops called out in the three months' service, and among the hundred days' men; how many lives might have been saved by a little knowledge on the part of the men so called out, laid up before hand, and how many more might have been serviceable who pined away in hospitals, and were finally discharged for disability.

Every one has daily reminders in taxes and stamps of the fearful cost of the war, and military men know how much more it cost than it should have done. Statistics and computations in the War Department, go to show that in all wars where volunteers have operated under precisely similar circumstances with Regular troops, that where the Regular soldier cost the country one dollar, the volunteer cost from three to as high as five dollars. This is not due to the principle of calling for volunteers, but to the want of method in organizing them. Volunteers are unquestionably the best troops that can be obtained by any means, but yet they must learn their duties before they do them, and it is in the means to teach them that we are at fault.

It is to be hoped that we shall yet have the experience of the late terrible war put in such shape that the country may have the benefit thereof, and that future wars will not last so long or cost so much in human life and treasure. Now is the proper time for reorganizing and improving. "In time of peace prepare for war," is trite but true, but in this country it has nevertheless never yet been acted upon, notwithstanding that Washington reiterated it in his farewell address.

K.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

The Department of the Columbia is commanded by Brevet Major-General Fred. Steele, Colonel Twentieth U. S. Infantry, the Headquarters of the Department being at Portland, Oregon.

DEPARTMENT STAFF.—Geo. Macomber, Second Lieutenant Fourteenth (now Twenty-third) Infantry, Acting Assistant Inspector General; Henry C. Hodges, Major, Acting Quartermaster, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., Chief Quartermaster; Sam. A. Foster, Captain, Commissary of Subsistence, Brevet Major U. S. A., Chief Commissary of Subsistence and Acting Assistant Adjutant General; P. G. S. Ten Broeck, Surgeon U. S. A., Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, Medical Director of Department; Geo. Williams, Lieutenant and Brevet Captain U. S. A., Aide-de-Camp; Richard Strong, First Lieutenant Seventh Infantry, U. S. A., Aide-de-Camp.

The following is a list of the names of officers commanding posts and companies of troops serving in this Department, including Oregon, Washington and Idaho Territories:

FORT VANCOUVER, W. T.—Colonel G. A. H. Blake, commanding First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A. (on leave), with staff and band. (The First Cavalry band and the band of the Fourteenth Infantry are to be consolidated to make one of the fifteen bands; to be stationed at Fort Vancouver, W. T., in obedience to General Orders recently published.) Captain Wm. Kelley, commanding Company C, Eighth regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., also commanding post. First Lieutenant Albert C. Vincent, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., commanding Company F, Second regiment U. S. Artillery. First Lieutenant L. S. Babbitt, Brevet Captain Ordnance Corps, in charge of the arsenal at this post.

FORT STEVENS (mouth of Columbia River), OREGON.—Captain Leroy L. Jones, commanding Company C, Second regiment U. S. Artillery, also commanding post.

CAPE DISAPPOINTMENT (mouth of the Columbia River), W. T.—Captain John J. Rogers, commanding Company L, Second regiment U. S. Artillery, also commanding post.

FORT STEILACOOM, W. T.—Captain C. H. Pierce, commanding Company E, Second U. S. Artillery, also commanding post.

SAN JUAN ISLAND, W. T.—Captain Thos. Grey, company I, Second regiment U. S. Artillery, also commanding post.

FORT COLVILLE, W. T.—Captain John S. Wharton, commanding Company G, (Fourteenth) Twenty-third Infantry, also commanding post.

FORT LAPUAI, I. T.—Lieutenant I. H. Gallagher, commanding Company E, Eighth regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., also commanding post.

FORT WALLA WALLA, W. T.—Lieutenant Oscar J. Converse, commanding Company D, Eighth regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., also commanding post.

CAMP WATSON, OREGON.—Captain E. M. Baker, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., commanding Company I, First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., also commanding post. Lieutenant Amandus C. Kistler, commanding Company F, (Fourteenth) Twenty-third regiment Infantry.

CAMP LOGAN, OREGON.—Lieutenant Charles B. Western, commanding Company F, Eighth regiment Cavalry, also commanding post.

FORT KLAMATH, OREGON.—Captain F. B. Sprague, commanding Company I, First regiment Oregon Infantry Volunteers, also commanding post.

DISTRICT OF BOISE.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cook, First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., commanding District.

FORT BOISE, I. T.—Captain James B. Sinclair, Brevet Colonel, U. S. A., commanding Company H, (Fourteenth) Twenty-third regiment Infantry, U. S. A. Captain David Perry, commanding Company F, First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A.

CAMP THREE FORKS, I. T. (Ruby City, P. O.).—Captain John J. Coppinger, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., commanding Companies A and F, (Fourteenth) Twenty-third regiment Infantry, U. S. A., also commanding post.

CAMP C. F. SMITH, OREGON.—Captain J. H. Walker, commanding Company C, (Fourteenth) Twenty-third regiment Infantry, U. S. A., also commanding post.

CAMP WARNER, OREGON.—Major L. H. Marshall, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., commanding post. Captain P. Collins, commanding Companies B and D, Twenty-third regiment Infantry. Captain Edward Myers, Brevet Major, U. S. A., commanding Company H, First regiment Cavalry.

CAMP LYON, I. T. (Ruby City P. O.).—Captain James C. Hunt, Company M, First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A.

Colonel E. B. Babbitt, Chief Quartermaster of this Department, has been retired from active service, but is on duty at Headquarters in Portland, Oregon.

Paymasters on duty in the Department of the Columbia are Major Simon Francis, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., Chief Paymaster of Department, Fort Vancouver, W. T.; Major Henry T. Nims, Fort Vancouver; Major George E. Glenn, Fort Vancouver.

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

The medical officers of the United States Army on duty in the Department of the Columbia are: Major P. G. S. Ten Broeck, Surgeon and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., Medical Director of the Department; Major Clinton Wagner, Surgeon U. S. A., Chief Medical Officer District of Boise, Fort Boise, I. T.; First Lieutenant Joseph E. Temple, Assistant Surgeon and Brevet Major U. S. A., Post Surgeon, Fort Vancouver, W. T.; First Lieutenant W. E. Whitehead, Assistant Surgeon and Brevet Captain U. S. A., Post Surgeon, Cape Disappointment, W. T.

At all other posts not enumerated, medical attendance is furnished by citizen physicians under contract.

Lieutenant Dodge, of Company C, Second regiment U. S. Artillery, is recruiting for the Eighth regiment Cavalry, U. S. A.; office in Portland, Oregon.

Lieutenant W. Borrow, Second regiment U. S. Artillery, is recruiting for the Eighth regiment Cavalry, in Salem, Oregon.

Another recruiting office has been opened in Oregon City, Oregon, but the names of the officers in charge are not known.

Quartermasters of the Army on duty in the Department of the Columbia: Colonel E. B. Babbitt (retired), on duty in Portland, Headquarters of Department; Major Henry C. Harper, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., Chief Quartermaster of Department, Fort Vancouver, W. T.; Captain T. I. Eckerson, Acting Quartermaster, Fort Boise, I. T.; Captain James Gillis, Acting Quartermaster, Fort Stevens, Oregon, Regimental Quartermaster First regiment Cavalry, U. S. A., Fort Vancouver, W. T.

At a meeting of the officers of the Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, held at the Herndon House, at Omaha, Nebraska Territory, and of which Brevet Major A. J. Dallas was chairman, and Captain E. M. Coates, Secretary, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

Resolved, That the considerate conduct of the Chicago and N. W. R. W. Company, as evinced on the route from Chicago to the present terminus of their road, at St. John's, Iowa, deserves and receives the highest praise and gratitude of the men and officers of this command.

Resolved, That in this connection we deem it a special duty and pleasure to mention the names of Mr. George L. Dunlap, general superintendent; Mr. George L. Head, master of transportation, Western Division; and Messrs. Safford, Steadman, and Smith, conductors; and Mr. Edward Lessner, brakeman; each of these gentlemen evincing by their constant care and kind attention to the details of the comfort of the men, officers, and their families, a sympathy with the hardships of a soldier's life which might well be copied by other roads over which the regiment has passed since leaving Washington, D. C.

Resolved, That we, the officers of the regiment, return our thanks to the foregoing gentlemen, and extend to them our best wishes for their welfare and future prosperity.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be printed in the Chicago Times and Army and Navy Journal, and that a copy be furnished Mr. George L. Dunlap, general superintendent.

The meeting then adjourned sine die.

The following officers of the Veteran Reserve Corps have been mustered out and honorably discharged from the service of the United States: Brevet Brigadier-General Robert Avery, Major Seventh regiment; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel William R. Rogers, Captain Nineteenth regiment; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Chur, Captain Twenty-first regiment; Brevet Major John Leonard, Captain Nineteenth regiment, to date January 24; First Lieutenant J. E. Quentin, Fourteenth regiment, to date January 7th.

SECOND Lieutenant Moses Wiley, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, has been detailed as a member of the General Court-martial, instituted in paragraph 10, Special Orders No. 52, series of 1866, from Headquarters Department of the Gulf, to convene at Jacksonville, Texas. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel John B. Johnson, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, has been relieved as Judge-Advocate of said Court, and First Lieutenant Samuel M. Whiteside, same regiment, has been detailed in his stead.

ARMY AND NAVY PERSONAL.

E. M. HEYL, Esq., has been appointed a first lieutenant in the Ninth U. S. Cavalry (colored).

A DETACHMENT of the Twenty-eighth Infantry, under Second Lieutenant P. McL. Barton, has been ordered to take post at Pine Bluffs, Ark.

C. E. HARGOVS, late Captain Fifteenth New York Engineers, has received an appointment as Second Lieutenant in the Fortieth U. S. Infantry.

FIRST Lieutenant James M. Wetherall, Twenty-eighth Infantry (new appointment), has reported for duty and been assigned to Company K at Camden.

FIRST Lieutenant John E. Bennett, Twenty-eighth Infantry, has been detailed as Judge-Advocate of a General Court-martial convened at Little Rock, Ark.

BREVET Brigadier-General Alvan C. Gillem, Colonel U. S. Army, has been appointed Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the State of Mississippi.

By direction of the President, Brevet Major-General William P. Carlin, Major Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, has been assigned to duty according to his brevet rank.

CAPTAIN Arthur B. Carpenter, transferred from the Twenty-eighth to the Thirty-seventh Infantry, has been ordered to report for duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

BREVET Major-General Jefferson C. Davis, Colonel Twenty-third U. S. Infantry, has, by direction of the President, been assigned to duty according to his brevet rank.

D. B. WILSON, late First Lieutenant in the One Hundred and Thirty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, has been appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Forty-first U. S. Infantry.

The post of Munn's Hill, Ark., has been broken up. Company F, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Second Lieutenant James M. Smith commanding, takes post at Washington, Hempstead county.

FIRST Lieutenant E. D. Wheeler, First U. S. Artillery, has been relieved as a member of the General Court-martial instituted in Special Orders No. 91, series of 1866, from Headquarters Department of the East.

The General Court-martial which convened at New Orleans, La., and of which Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Loring, Major Tenth U. S. Infantry, was President, was dissolved by Major-General Sheridan on the 16th ult.

The General Court-martial which convened at Charleston, S. C., and of which Brevet Major-General F. H. Parker, Captain U. S. Ordnance Corps, was President, was dissolved by Brevet Major-General J. C. Robinson on the 18th ult.

BREVET Major W. A. Elderkin, C. S. U. S. A., having reported at Headquarters District of the Chattahoochee, Macon, Ga., has been announced as Chief Commissary of Subsistence, on the staff of Brevet Major-General Charles R. Woods, commanding the district.

The General Court-martial which convened at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, and of which Major Pinkney Lugenbeel, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, was President, has been dissolved by order of Brevet Major-General Ord, commanding Department of the Arkansas.

BREVET Major John L. Woods, Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers, has been ordered to report in person to the Commanding General and to the Chief Quartermaster Department of Arkansas for assignment to duty in that Department in connection with disinterments.

BREVET Brigadier-General C. L. Kilburn, Chief Commissary of Subsistence at Headquarters Department of the East, has been ordered to repair to Erie, Pa., on business connected with the Subsistence Department; after the completion of which he will return to the City of Philadelphia.

UNDER authority from the War Department, by letter dated August 3, 1866, First Lieutenant B. P. Blanchard, One Hundred and Sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, on duty with the Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, has been retained in service beyond the muster out of his regiment, for that duty.

THE General Court-martial which convened at Fort Hooker, Kansas, December 6, 1866, and of which Brevet Major-General D. S. Stanley, Colonel Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, was President, has been dissolved by order of Major-General Hancock, commanding Department of the Missouri.

ALBION HOWE, late Major of the Fourteenth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, has been appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Fourth U. S. Artillery. Lieutenant Howe has passed his examination before the Artillery Examining Board and has been ordered to report for duty at Fort McHenry, Baltimore.

THE General Court-martial which convened at Chattanooga, Tenn., and of which Brevet Major Jacob Kline, Captain Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, was President, and First Lieutenant Francis H. Ross, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, Judge-Advocate, was dissolved by Major-General Thomas December 27th.

THE General Court-martial, which convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, Nov. 19, 1866, and of which Brevet Colonel Robert Nugent, Captain Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, was president, was dissolved on the 10th ult., by order of Major-General Hancock, commanding Department of the Missouri.

TELEGRAPHIC orders from the Headquarters District of the Chattahoochee, directing Acting Assistant Surgeon J. Harvey, U. S. A., to report for duty to the commanding officer of Company A, Thirty-third Infantry, under orders to proceed from Mobile, Ala., to Dahlonaga, Ga., have been confirmed.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Hoag, Captain Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, First Lieutenant Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry, Veteran Reserve Corps, has been detailed for duty in the Freedmen's Bureau, and ordered to report to Major-General Howard, for assignment to duty in the State of Georgia.

THE General Court-martial which convened at Fort Laramie, D. T., December 12, 1866, and of which Brevet Brigadier General Innis N. Palmer, Lieutenant-Colonel Second U. S. Cavalry, was President, has been dissolved by order of Brevet Major-General Cooke, commanding Department of the Platte.

THE General Court-martial which convened at Macon, Ga., November 26, 1866, and of which Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James Biddle, Captain Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, was President, and First Lieutenant Cass Durham, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, Judge-Advocate, has been dissolved by Major-General Thomas.

BREVET Brigadier-General J. R. Lewis has been relieved from duty as Assistant Commissioner for the Freedmen's Bureau in Tennessee, and ordered to report to the Assistant Commissioner of that Bureau for Georgia, for assignment to duty as Adjutant-General or Inspector-General for that State.

COLONEL Nelson A. Miles, Fortieth U. S. Infantry, has completed the organization of his regiment, it being the first one of the new infantry regiments yet filled. As soon as the ice is cleared from the Potomac River, he will proceed with his regiment to the Department of the South, for duty in that Department.

TELEGRAPHIC order from Headquarters District of the Chattahoochee, of January 12, 1867, from Colonel T. H. Ruger, Thirty-third Infantry, directing A. W. Corliss, Thirty-third Infantry, to proceed from Selma, Ala., to Macon, Ga., and report for duty on the regimental staff of his regiment, has been confirmed.

UNDER authority from the War Department, by letter dated January 12, 1867, Lieutenant Lewis Johnson, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, has been directed to discontinue his recruiting station at Huntsville, Ala., and proceed without delay to Nashville, Tennessee, and establish a recruiting station and recruit for his regiment at that place.

FIRST Lieutenant W. F. Lynch, Forty-second U. S. Infantry, having passed a satisfactory examination before the Board instituted for that purpose and reported at Headquarters Department of the East, agreeably to instructions, will repair to Hart's Island, New York Harbor, and report to the Commander thereof for duty.

BREVET Major A. A. Cole, Seventh U. S. Infantry, has been relieved from further duty as a member of the General Court-martial, instituted in Special Orders No. 94, series of 1866, from Headquarters Department of the Gulf, and Lieutenant J. H. Seymour, Seventh U. S. Infantry, has been detailed in his stead.

FIRST Lieutenant H. S. Wadsworth, Sixty-fifth U. S. Colored Infantry, having been unable, by reason of sickness, to accompany his regiment home upon its muster out, has been ordered by General Sheridan, Department of the Gulf, to proceed to St. Louis, Mo., as soon as he is able to travel, and report to the Chief Mustering Officer of that State.

ACTING Assistant-Surgeon Charles Pelaez, U. S. Army, having reported at Headquarters Department of the Gulf for assignment to duty at Fort Pike, La., pursuant to instructions from the Medical Director, Department of the Gulf, has been ordered to proceed without delay to that place, and relieve Assistant Surgeon Thomas Landers, Tenth U. S. Colored Artillery (heavy).

BREVET Major-General Davis Tillson, Brigadier-General U. S. A., having been mustered out of the service of the United States, Colonel C. C. Sibley, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, on the 23d ult. assumed command of the Sub-District of Georgia, with Headquarters at Savannah, Ga. First Lieutenant John E. Hosmer, Adjutant Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, is announced as Assistant Adjutant-General to Colonel Sibley.

THE following-named officers of the Veteran Reserve Corps have been honorably discharged the service of the United States, by Special Orders No. 43, January 26, 1867: Brevet Major Thomas Leddy, Captain Sixteenth regiment; Captain George T. Crabtree, unassigned; First Lieutenant John Morton, Twenty-third regiment; Second Lieutenant Joseph Burnes, Seventeenth regiment.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL William M. Beebe, Jr., One Hundred and Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Hoag, Captain Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, having received appointments in the Army, and having been retained in the service after the muster out of their regiments, they have been honorably mustered out of the service.

THE charge against First Lieutenant W. M. Mitchell, Twenty-third regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, having been substantially withdrawn, and upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, so much of Special Orders No. 621, Paragraph 14, dated December 14, 1866, from the Adjutant-General's Office, as relates to him, has been revoked, and he has been honorably mustered out of the service of the United States.

LIEUTENANT S. P. Jocelyn, Sixth U. S. Infantry, has been appointed Acting Assistant Quartermaster for the Military Post and Depot of Columbia, etc. He also relieves Lieutenant J. E. Munson, of the same regiment, of the duties of Post Adjutant and Assistant Commissary of Subsistence. The troops stationed at Columbia are Companies B and C of the Sixth Infantry commanded by Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General J. Durell Greene.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. De Gress, late Major and Aid-de-camp on the staff of Major-General Mower, recently arrived in Washington with his charming bride. Colonel De Gress was married on New Year's day, in Houston, Texas, where he was on duty with the Freedmen's Bureau. The Colonel has been wounded seven times during the late war. He has recently been appointed a First Lieutenant in the Ninth U. S. Cavalry (colored), stationed in New Orleans.

PURSUANT to authority from the War Department, the following officers of the Fourteenth U. S. Infantry have been assigned to the companies indicated opposite their respective names: Second battalion—First Lieutenant John H. Gallagher, to Company E; First Lieutenant A. H. Nickerson, to Company H; First Lieutenant Charles

B. Western, to Company G; First Lieutenant R. I. Eskridge, to Company C; First Lieutenant O. J. Converse, to Company B; Second Lieutenant George Macomber, to Company F; Second Lieutenant T. M. McDougal, to Company A.

A BOARD of Survey was appointed to meet in the city of New Orleans, at the office of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Strang, Assistant Quartermaster, Friday, January 11, 1867, at 10 o'clock, A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon the condition of a lot of oats received from Brevet Major J. L. Woods, Assistant Quartermaster at St. Louis, Mo., per steamer, *W. R. Arthur*, alleged to be damaged. The Board will fix the responsibility. Detail for the Board: Captain and Brevet Major Leslie Smith, First U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant D. F. Callinan, First U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. L. Worden, First U. S. Infantry.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., on the 28th day of January, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such persons as may be brought before it by authority from Headquarters Department of the East. Detail for the court: Brevet Brigadier-General J. J. B. Wright, Surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major R. F. Bernard, U. S. Army; Brevet Major William O'Connell, U. S. Army; Brevet Captain John A. Irwin, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant James Egan, Second U. S. Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon J. B. Petherbridge, U. S. Army. Captain Joseph Kerin, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, is appointed Judge-Advocate.

A BOARD of officers was appointed to meet at the Sedgwick Hospital, Greenville, La., Monday, January 21, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon alleged depredations committed upon the property of Mrs. Catherine Priest, by troops encamped near her residence. The Board will take such evidence as may be necessary in the case, and will report upon the facts, recommending what amount, if any, should be assessed in reparation under the 32d Article of War. Detail for the Board: Brevet Brigadier-General W. M. Graham, Captain First U. S. Artillery; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Sheldon Sturgeon, Captain First U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Allen Smith, First U. S. Infantry.

A BOARD of Survey was appointed to meet at New Orleans, at the office of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Strang, Assistant Quartermaster, Tuesday, January 22, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon the condition of, and an alleged deficiency in, a certain lot of quartermaster's stores received by Colonel Strang, on the 17th inst., from Brevet Brigadier-General Charles H. Tompkins, Quartermaster at Washington, D. C. If damaged or deficient, the Board will ascertain the nature, and to what extent, and fix the responsibility. Detail for the Board: Captain I. D. De Russey, First U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant J. H. Purcell, First U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant S. Hubbell, First U. S. Infantry.

A BOARD of Survey was appointed to meet in the city of New Orleans, at the office of Captain W. G. Hodges, Military Storekeeper U. S. Army, Friday, January 18, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon an alleged damage and loss in a certain lot of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, received by Captain Hodges from Brevet Captain Lucius Crocker, Acting Assistant Quartermaster at Fort Pike, La. The Board will ascertain the nature and extent of the damage and loss, if any, and fix the responsibility. Detail for the Board: Captain I. D. De Russey, First U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant J. H. Purcell, First U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant S. Hubbell, First U. S. Infantry.

A BOARD of Survey was appointed to meet in the city of New Orleans, at the office of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Strang, Assistant Quartermaster, Monday, January 21, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon the condition of a lot of hay (138 bales) received by Colonel Strang from Brevet Major J. L. Woods, Assistant Quartermaster at St. Louis, Mo., per steamer *Julia*, a portion of which is alleged to be unfit for issue. The Board will fix the responsibility for the condition of the hay, if found damaged. Detail for the Board: Captain and Brevet Major M. R. Marston, First U. S. Infantry, First Lieutenant and Brevet Captain B. S. Humphreys, First U. S. Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. W. Roby, First U. S. Infantry.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in St. Louis to raise a sufficient amount of money to purchase a house and lot for Brevet Brigadier-General G. R. Paul, U. S. Army. It will be remembered that at the battle of Gettysburg General Paul was entirely deprived of his sight by a bullet which entered his right temple, passed behind his right eye, and out through the socket of his left. General Paul is now on the retired list, but was formerly Colonel of the Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, and is a native of Missouri, from which State he was appointed to West Point. The General was appointed a Brevet Second Lieutenant Seventh U. S. Infantry in 1834, and has consequently been thirty-three years in the service, in which he always bore a distinguished reputation. The object is certainly a most deserving one, and we hope the effort to furnish him with a permanent home in St. Louis may prove successful.

IN compliance with instructions from Department Headquarters, Brevet Major-General Charles R. Woods, has ordered a Board of officers consisting of Major E. McK. Hudson, Fifteenth Infantry, Captain Irwin W. Potter, Fifteenth Infantry, and First Lieutenant Eugene W. Scheibner, Thirty-third Infantry, to assemble at Fort Gaines, Ala., on the 20th day of January, 1867, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to investigate and report upon certain matters in relation to public property said to have been misapplied at Fort Gaines, Ala., as set forth in a communication from Brevet Major James Curtis, Captain Fifteenth Infantry, commanding Forts Gaines and Powell, dated December 8, 1866. Lieutenant E. W. Scheibner, Thirty-third Infantry, has been relieved from duty as member of the above Board, and First Lieutenant W. F. Frohock, Fifteenth Infantry, detailed in his place.

THE FORT PHILIP KEARNY MASSACRE.

A CORRESPONDENT at Fort Philip Kearny, Dakota Territory, under date of December 31, 1866, sends us the following account of the massacre which recently took place near that post:

About 9 o'clock, morning of the 21st of December, sharp firing was heard at this post, in the direction of the wood road, over the hills, evidently an attack made by Indians on our wood train, which had just left the fort. Captain W. J. Fetterman, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. A., was directed by Colonel Carrington to take command of fifty infantry and proceed to the scene of action and rescue the wood train, and if deemed necessary bring it back to the fort, but not to follow the Indians over the bluffs. Captain F. H. Brown, Eighteenth U. S. Infantry (until recently Chief Quartermaster of the District of the Mountains) accompanied Colonel Fetterman as a volunteer. Lieutenant G. W. Grummond, Eighteenth Infantry, was then directed to take the cavalry company stationed here (C, Second U. S. Cavalry), numbering about thirty men, and join Colonel Fetterman's command. This was done with Lieutenant Grummond's well known promptness, and the united command was seen crossing Piney Creek, evidently with the intention of cutting off the retreat of the Indians, as the firing at the wood train had entirely ceased. Shortly after the command had disappeared round a bluff, sharp firing was heard at the fort, which increased rapidly, and finally a continual volley of musketry.

Colonel Carrington then ordered Captain Ten Eyck, with fifty more infantry as a reinforcement, to hurry to the scene of the conflict, and four wagons with extra ammunition, also to bring in the wounded (should there be any). A large number of mounted teamsters were also sent to Colonel Fetterman's assistance.

About four miles from the fort Captain Ten Eyck saw an immense body of Indians, which he estimated from two to three thousand, on a bluff, evidently waiting for him. About a mile further he found the bodies of Colonel Fetterman, Captain Brown, and forty-seven soldiers, all dead, stripped and most horribly mutilated. The surrounding ground was littered with dead horses and Indian ponies, but no bodies of dead Indians.

For a mile further on could be seen dead and naked bodies of our fallen comrades strewn in and along the wagon road.

The wagons were loaded with bodies and returned to the fort, reaching here at dark; the Indians keeping the bluffs and sending out small parties, apparently to cut off the return of the party to the fort, but made no attack on them. Next morning Colonel Carrington, with Captain Ten Eyck and Lieutenant Matson, with a party of soldiers, went to the battle-ground and recovered and brought in the remaining bodies, including Lieutenant Grummond's and two citizens who volunteered to accompany the command under Colonel Fetterman. The dead numbered eighty-one in all. Not a man lives to tell the history of this terrible disaster, and all we can do toward solving the mystery is merely conjecture. Evidence of a terrible struggle is seen in the numerous spots of blood within rifle range of where the bodies were found, in the long resistance made, as determined by the firing heard at the fort, in the number of shells of metallic cartridges found around the bodies, and the fact that the Indians, although numbering two or three thousand, did not attack Captain Ten Eyck's party while removing the dead bodies. It is supposed that Colonel Fetterman's command followed a small party of Indians and were ambushed, and their retreat cut off by this large force. The Indians, from their numbers and arrows found, were a combination of all the Sioux bands in Dakota, the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, and no doubt Blackfoot Indians.

They are determined not to give up the route through this country, and unless a large number of troops are sent here at once this line cannot be maintained. They threaten all the forts on this line, and are strong enough to awaken grave apprehensions. Their treatment of the dead is unparalleled and beyond imagination. A.

In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 5, Special Orders No. 8, War Department, Adjutant-General's office, current series, Major-General Meade has ordered a Board of officers, consisting of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. F. Rodenbaugh, Forty-second Infantry; Captain Louis E. Crone, Forty-second Infantry; Second Lieutenant T. F. Forbes, Forty-second Infantry, to meet at No. 7 Bowling Green, New York City, on the 30th day of January, 1867, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, to examine and report upon the qualifications for appointment as second lieutenant in the United States Army of Artificer Thaddeus Roberts, Company B, U. S. Engineer Battalion. The examination will be of a practical nature, and will be conducted so as to exhibit as well the character of the soldier, his general intelligence, and his fitness for the position and duties of a commissioned officer, as his proficiency in the tactics, in administration, and with regard to other necessary points on military knowledge. His military record will be fully considered. Artificer Thaddeus Roberts will present himself to the Board at the time and place indicated, with a surgeon's certificate, setting forth his physical qualifications.

The following is a list of the officers appointed in the cavalry arm of the service who have passed the Examining Board now sitting in Washington:

Major JAMES W. FORSYTH, Tenth U. S. Cavalry; Captains WILLIAM THOMPSON and ALBERT BARNITT, Seventh Cavalry; WILLIAM BAYARD, Ninth Cavalry; NICHOLAS NOLAN, Tenth Cavalry; First Lieutenants, N. B. KAUFFMAN and S. E. CHAMBERLAIN, Eighth Cavalry; E. M. HEYLE, MICHAEL COONEY and SETH E. GRIFFIN, Ninth Cavalry; Second Lieutenants, JAMES G. BIRNEY, Ninth Cavalry; THOMAS SPENCER and GEORGE F. RAULSTON, Tenth Cavalry.

The Navy Register for the year 1867 has been issued and shows the status of the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps on the 1st day of January 1867.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1867.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE EDITOR of this JOURNAL will always be glad to receive from officers in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH.

Officers are especially requested to give us early notification of all personal matters of general interest; of the movements of vessels and troops, and of all military and naval events.

In directing a change in the address of a paper, care should be taken to give the previous address.

All communications should be addressed to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, New York.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion, in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

THE JOURNAL AND THE GALAXY.

To meet the desire of many readers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL who wish also to obtain THE GALAXY, the publishers will send the two publications for one year for TEN DOLLARS.

THE DOCK-RACE OF THE FRANKLIN.

It will be seen from the official report of Mr. ISHERWOOD's subordinate contained within a letter signed "A," in another column of the JOURNAL, that the late 120-hour race of the frigate *Franklin* (lashed to the dock at Charlestown Navy-yard), has been concluded. We have already expressed our opinion with regard to the *Franklin's* steam machinery, and now sincerely regret that there is nothing in this report of its late performances, which leads us to a more favorable conclusion. Both the report and the letter withhold such detailed information as is essential to form an accurate opinion on the result of the trial.

The report tells us that:

The trial continued for 120 consecutive hours, during which time the machinery has operated in the most satisfactory manner. * * *

* The engines have been run as high as 39 revolutions per minute, the bearings all remaining perfectly cool, and at no time has a particle of water been used upon any of the journals. * * * The average amount of vacuum during the run has been from 26½ to 27 inches, occasionally going as low as 26 inches and as high as 28 inches.

But we are left in the dark with regard to those specific details from which the alleged excellence of the machinery could be judged. For example, the total number of revolutions made during the 120 hours, from which the average number of revolutions per minute could be calculated, is not given; no mention is made of the performance of the complicated, independent superheating boilers, one of the most important features of this machinery; and while we are told that the engines made "as high as 39 revolutions per minute," we are not told how long even this speed (which is low, not "high") was maintained. Was this "maximum maximorum" speed only kept up for a few moments?

Of what importance, then, is the statement that the bearings all remained "perfectly cool," and that no water was at any time "used upon any of the journals?" As to that, water is not usually put "upon" journals, but upon and through the brasses which surround them; and we are not assured that water was not so used. It is not likely, judging from what information we have, that the engines averaged over 30 revolutions. Is freedom from heating at this speed—speed so low in a test of the excellence of the engines—a matter of surprise to the designer? It seems to us unworthy of mention.

Again, no information is given as to how much of the propeller was out of water during the trial. Yet this fact has obviously something to do with the performance. So, too, we are loosely told that the "average" vacuum was from "26½ to 27 inches" during the trial; but an average is a fixed amount; and that it is allowed to slide through such a margin, very well illustrates the slovenly character of the report. On the other hand, we are left to conjecture under what conditions this vacuum was attained. If, as is probable, only about 30 revolutions was the average, and the condensing water was of the low temperature of "30 deg.," as is stated, then it is not a brilliant performance. Because, the amount of steam the condenser is called upon to condense is trifling compared with the quantity it must condense

when the engines develop respectable power. Besides, we find a very exceptionally low temperature in the cooling sea water—"30 deg.," that is, 2 deg. below the freezing point of fresh water. Had this vacuum been obtained, not at a "dock-race," but at sea, the engines making from 55 to 60 revolutions, and with the cooling water of the temperatures ordinarily obtained in practice, i. e., from 60 deg. to 70 deg., it would be of considerable importance. As it stands, it is simply idle to parade this result to show the efficiency of the SEWELL's patent condenser of this vessel.

That Mr. ISHERWOOD's independent, superheating boilers, used in the *Franklin* and in thirty or forty other U. S. vessels, are utter failures, is now a well-established fact. When, indeed, this had become well known, Mr. ISHERWOOD asserted that they were not intended to superheat, but merely to "thoroughly dry the steam." Hence, not only is the great gain obtainable by the modern practice of superheating completely neutralized, in the vessels fitted with this absurd contrivance, but the steam machinery is increased in weight, cost, magnitude and complication by an apparatus whose inefficiency is thoroughly demonstrated, and which, indeed, is a subject for general ridicule among engineers.

The object of this 120 hour dock-race, says one correspondent, "was to ascertain if the contractors had fulfilled their guarantees of good workmanship and material, their responsibility extending only to these stipulations, as the work was executed from the drawings furnished by the Bureau of Steam Engineering." We suggest that here is a key to those absurd "dock-races" which have been carried on for the past six years. Of course, machinery designed by the Steam Bureau will always prove "most satisfactory," when tried in this delicate way, instead of being tested under the conditions of actual service. But it might, conceivably, reduce the construction of nearly the entire Navy to the *ipse dixit* of one man, and he not even a practical constructor, but a theoretical physicist. Under the present régime, the responsibility of a contractor extends only to "good workmanship and good material." If this were not so, can any one suppose that a dock-race of 120 hours, during which engines which should make 60 revolutions, confessedly never could reach 40, and probably did not average more than 30, would be regarded as a "most satisfactory" test of a naval screw-engine?

From whatever motive established, "dock-races" invariably prove "most satisfactory"—of the hundreds during and since the war, this is the orthodox report. The machinery of the 19 *Chippewa* gunboats, of such vessels as the *Juniata* and the *Ossipee*, nay, even the new machinery of the *Pensacola*, performed wonders while tied to the dock. But these marvellous performances came to an end the moment the lines were cast off, and the machinery was put to its proper work of driving the vessels through the water.

Mr. ISHERWOOD's subordinate informs us "that the boilers" of the *Franklin* "are entirely satisfactory"—that is, they make steam for thirty revolutions, while, considering their great weight and size, they should supply steam for fifty revolutions at the very least. But pray to whom is this result "entirely satisfactory?" It surely cannot be to the public. The *Franklin* is not in commission, is without stores, ammunition, or coal; accordingly, the low number of revolutions on which this "most satisfactory" performance of its engines is predicated, were made when the propeller did not have its maximum immersion. Is the performance of machinery built from plans other than those of the Steam Bureau pronounced "most satisfactory" after such a trial? Quite the contrary, as the severe tests to which the machinery of the *Chattanooga* was subjected, abundantly prove. Let the *Franklin's* machinery be tried under the same conditions as obtained in that vessel, (the trial presided over by a board, governed by the same bias, and we should get data on which to form a correct judgment.

It is a well known fact, that no less than 4,000 indicated horse-power has been attained with screw machinery, constructed on the usual principles, and weighing only about the same as the machinery of the *Franklin*—and without the improvements of superheating and surface-condensation attempted in that vessel. This power would propel the *Franklin* over 12 knots. We find that Mr. ISHERWOOD has only

promised 10 knots as the maximum, and this speed can be achieved with about 2,000 horse-power.

In the indicator diagrams published in the communication of "A," the attempt is made to carry out the modern practice of expansion. It is obvious from these diagrams that the valve-action is so bad that, although the steam is not cut off nearly as short as in the best practice, yet the exhaust is so choked that long before the piston has completed its stroke (and the crank stands at the favorable angle of about 40 deg.), it no longer exerts any force to turn the propeller; and, after that time, it is forced to complete its stroke—by the other engine—against a heavy resistance.

When it is remembered that at the time these diagrams were taken, the engines were moving at a low rate of speed, and were developing but a small power—about enough to propel the ship between 7½ and 8 knots—they certainly do not say much for the economical working of the engine. With such diagrams before us, the commentary of "A," that "there is no independent expansion-valve," is quite superfluous. We are very happy to be able to state, however, that these diagrams are a decided improvement, not only over the first diagram we published from this vessel, but also over any other we have ever seen from Mr. ISHERWOOD. It would appear that the arguments of the JOURNAL have not been altogether thrown away on Mr. ISHERWOOD, as he seems to have abandoned his 7-10ths cut-off theory. If he had only done this six years sooner, and proportioned his engines accordingly, our naval machinery would now be in far better condition.

THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

It is the general opinion, and has been ever since the fatal 13th of December, 1862, that the battle delivered at Fredericksburg on that day, was, on the Union part at least, a very badly planned engagement. The Confederates, too, it is said, were almost equally discontent with its issue, because they only repulsed our Army, without annihilating it. We, at all events, could hardly have done worse than we did. We lost 12,000 men out of the best army that ever marched in Virginia; we lost 6 months of precious time, and set a seal on operations against Richmond, from December to May.

It is the custom to fix upon its leader the main fault of a lost campaign or battle. In this, there is a rude sort of justice, since, as the general absorbs all the glory of victory, he ought to shoulder the odium of defeat. In the case of Fredericksburg, BURNSIDE manfully, and properly, too, assumed the whole responsibility for the disaster. The entire Army of the Potomac, and the country with it, came to the same conclusion. Such, therefore, has hitherto been the verdict of history. Now, however, just four years after this verdict was recorded, a writer has boldly undertaken to champion the Union commander at Fredericksburg. Mr. WOODBURY, in his book called "BURNSIDE and the Ninth Corps," is the author of this friendly effort. Knowing that our readers would feel a great curiosity to hear whatever could be said on that side of the question, we have, in last week's issue and the present, transferred his chapter on Fredericksburg to our columns.

As is usual in an unprosperous campaign, the alleged faults connected with Fredericksburg are numerous as well as great. It has been suggested, to begin with, that General BURNSIDE, on taking command of the Army at Warrenton, on Nov. 8th, should have improved the opportunity presented by LEE's divided Army, by marching between the two Confederate forces. This was the plan of BURNSIDE's predecessor, interrupted by his removal from command. JACKSON was in the Valley, LONGSTREET had just been drawn by McCLELLAN's manoeuvring to Culpeper, and it only remained to launch forward upon Gordonsville. Why this plan of moving against LEE instead of against Richmond, was abandoned, and a march down the Rappahannock substituted, so that LEE again followed and united his Army in good position, General BURNSIDE's biographer does not satisfactorily explain. He merely says, in a loose way, that it would involve "an uncertain battle, at a distance from the base"—an objection, of course, which would apply to the whole Atlanta campaign.

However, BURNSIDE obtained sanction, though not cordial approval, of his project for crossing at Fredericksburg. It has been usually considered that

SUMNER, who, on Nov. 17th, reached Falmouth, which faces it on the left bank, ought to have been allowed to cross and occupy the former place, then held by less than a brigade. But General BURNSIDE thought he must wait "until his communications had been established." However, there came the famous delay of the pontoon train, the fault of which, in an elaborate and ingenious chapter, Mr. WOODBURY has placed chiefly upon General HALLECK, declaring that General BURNSIDE was the victim of "misplaced confidence." The question who was most to blame for this detestable blunder, we do not care to reopen, believing it wisest to let the two officers just named, and their partisans, fight it out together.

But, when by the failure of the pontoon train LEE had intrenched himself in hopeless impregnability, why did BURNSIDE dash against him? His biographer, admitting that the plan was ruined by the failure of the pontoon train, explains the fatal attack by saying that the General did not wish "simply to idle away another Winter," and his "duty to the cause made him determine to fight." But to account for the selection of the crossing-place is a more difficult task. The fact is, that with the Confederates posted as they were, the true move was to cross either with one or more grand divisions at Banks' Ford or the United States Ford, and so turn LEE's left. The success of the early movements in HOOKER's campaign of Chancellorsville, will illustrate a point which is sufficiently clear upon theory.

With regard to the famous attempt to lay the bridges, on the morning of Dec. 11th, Mr. WOODBURY repeats a common error. LEE, of course, did not expect to prevent the crossing, as the Union position commanded the other bank. But he impeded it by disposing BARKSDALE's brigade in the town, and these riflemen, by their murderous fire, so delayed the laying of the bridges, that 2 o'clock had come without any progress, in spite of the tremendous bombardment from the entire Union artillery. Our author says that, at this late hour, BURNSIDE "at once saw the difficulty. He also saw the remedy. Consulting with his Chief of Artillery, General HUNT, and other officers, he decided to call for volunteers to cross the river in boats, drive out its defenders, and hold the town till the bridges should be built." This is incorrect. This "remedy" was proposed by General HUNT to General BURNSIDE, and eagerly seized by the latter. To the former, therefore, belongs whatever credit there is in the idea, as will be evident from a supplementary letter to his Report, which letter was evidently forwarded in order to rebut precisely the inference which Mr. WOODBURY has made.

As to the great battle itself, nothing need be said. All that men could dare, the Army of the Potomac did and dared. As it never was in finer condition than then, so it never acted more heroically. But the task assigned to it was impossible of accomplishment. It is urged, however, that if FRANKLIN, on the left, had not been remiss, the battle might have gone otherwise, and that BURNSIDE expected the principal attack to be made by FRANKLIN. Here is the old controversy over again. General BURNSIDE's view of it is contained in the chapter we have quoted from Mr. WOODBURY. On the other hand, the orders actually delivered to General FRANKLIN were, as will be seen by the same chapter, merely to send against the heights "a division, at least," which was to be "well supported and its line of retreat open," while the rest of his grand division was to be "held in position for a rapid movement down the old Richmond road." General FRANKLIN therefore concluded, that these terms "meant there should be simply an armed reconnaissance with a single division," while the rest of his two corps should be kept ready for the "rapid movement down the old Richmond road." So says FRANKLIN's testimony before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, from which it also appears that he instantly consulted with his two corps commanders, REYNOLDS and W. F. SMITH, and both agreed with his construction of the order. General SMITH says: "The conclusion of all of us was that General BURNSIDE had determined not to adopt the plan of making the attack in force from the left." Now, whether all of these officers were wrong in their conclusion, we have no disposition to discuss, because it is not evident, and not even probable, that, even if the attack had been made in force from the left, it would have succeeded.

As to General BURNSIDE's project to renew the attack next day, his biographer is significantly brief. He says that BURNSIDE "knew in such an emergency 'the Ninth Corps would not fail him.'" But had not General BURNSIDE yielded to the entreaties of those who surrounded him, to say the least, Mr. WOODBURY would never have felt called upon to be his chronicler, and in writing the history of the Ninth Corps on that day, he would also have composed its epitaph.

The manliness and generosity of General BURNSIDE, his brilliant services both before and after that Winter in which the *bâton* of supreme command was forced into his reluctant hands, and his long connection with the Ninth Corps should all make us as lenient as possible with regard to the affair at Fredericksburg. But it seems to us that the common verdict of the Army and country, pronounced at the time, must always remain that of history.

A PROJECT for issuing to all honorably discharged Volunteer officers of our late war a fitting certificate of their services has, we are happy to see, come up before one of the Military Committees in Congress. We heartily applaud this scheme, and cannot doubt that the committee will report in favor of its expediency. At present, most of our officers have to show, as evidence of their career of honor and patriotism, only a shabby, drab-colored bit of paper, with a dry statement of their height, age, rank, etc.

Something more significant than the ordinary pitiful paper of muster-out and discharge, signed by the mustering officer, ought to attest the release of the gallant officers of our citizen-soldiery from their patriotic service. Sentiment apart, and as a matter of selfish policy, a government never loses anything by distributing tokens of its appreciation of faithful campaigning among its soldiery. Such has always been the practice in France and other European countries. On this idea rests the whole policy of providing badges and medals of honor, stars, crosses, and insignia of rank. It is not the sign, but the thing signified, to be sure, that is of any moment; but then the visible emblem is what keeps the honorable career which it betokens fresh in the remembrance of others. That honorable ambition, also, to transmit some public memorial of devotion to the country to one's posterity, is always to be encouraged. There was a profound difference between the *empressement* with which the volunteers were greeted on their entry into service, and the unceremonious coolness with which, in some places, they were got rid of when the war was done. It was, with a vengeance, "welcome the coming, speed the parting guest"—and such was the haste of speeding that no testimonials of friendship were bestowed. But it is never too late to make an acknowledgment of gratitude. And, as some of our officers have got neither brevets nor thanks from Government, the best for its credit that it could do is to furnish the proposed national certificate to its Volunteer officers.

THE following is a list of the officers appointed in the Infantry arm of the service examined before the Board assembled in New York since last report:

Captains—C. J. TRIPLERS, Twelfth; C. J. WILSON, Sixteenth. First Lieutenants—F. A. H. GAEBEL, Forty-fifth; G. VON BLUCKER, Sixteenth. Second Lieutenants—C. E. CAMPBELL, Forty-second; A. BAYNE, Forty-second; HORACE BINNEY, Twenty-sixth; PATRICK HASSON, Fourteenth; C. L. COOPER, Thirty-ninth; W. F. HOUSTON, Twenty-third; SIDNEY E. CLARK, Sixteenth.

The place of meeting of the above Board will hereafter be No. 125 Bleeker street, New-York city.

THE following is a list of the officers who have been examined before the Cavalry Examining Board assembled in Washington, since last report: Captain JOHN M. BACON, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenants FRANCIS DODGE and J. C. DE GRASS, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant WILLIAM HARPER, Sixth U. S. Cavalry.

THE new system of tactics prepared by Brevet Major-General E. UPRON, Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-fifth U. S. Infantry, will, it is expected, be ready for issue in about two weeks. The entire work will be in one volume, a little larger than one of General CASEY's, and will contain some 300 pages.

THE Secretary of War has decided that under section 17 of the act of Congress approved July 28, 1866, medical storekeepers should have the same allowance of fuel and quarters, whether in kind or commutation, as military storekeepers of the Quartermaster's Department.

THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

Last week we extracted from "Woodbury's History of the Ninth Corps" a detailed account of the battle of Fredericksburg. As the remarks of the writer on the battle show the ground he takes as to the cause of its failure, we present them herewith:

When the commanding general left headquarters on the morning of the 14th, he had made every preparation to recommence the action by storming the heights. He knew in such an emergency the Ninth corps would not fail him, and he accordingly selected the troops whom he had before led to victory, to make the attack. He had decided even to direct the assault in person. A column of eighteen regiments was formed, and every thing was ready for the movement, when the three grand division commanders earnestly appealed to him to abandon the attempt. He could not refuse to listen to their persuasions and arguments. General Sumner was a most brave and experienced soldier. General Hooker was unsurpassed for daring. General Franklin was cool and steady. After mature deliberation and a careful revision of the whole matter, General Burnside suffered himself to be convinced that the attack was not feasible. The orders were countermanded, and the day passed without incident. There was considerable skirmishing at different points along the lines. But General Lee kept his troops under cover of his intrenchments, and General Burnside had concluded to remain quietly in his lines. The severely wounded were cared for and transported across the river. The slightly wounded found relief in the regimental hospitals. The 15th passed in the same manner. A portion of the dead were buried. The night came on cold and stormy, and, concealed from the enemy by the darkness, General Burnside silently withdrew his Army without loss across the Rappahannock. The bridges were taken up, and on the 16th the weary soldiers found rest in their former camps. The casualties in this battle were severe, but not disproportionate to the number of men exposed to fire. The subsequent operations of the Army of the Potomac were accompanied by greater losses, especially at Chancellorsville, and in General Grant's campaign of 1864. During the movements of the four days which General Burnside's army passed in Fredericksburg, one thousand three hundred and thirty-nine officers and men were reported killed, nine thousand and sixty wounded, and one thousand five hundred and thirty missing and prisoners. Of the wounded but one thousand six hundred and thirty were treated in general hospital, and of those reported missing, a large number were stragglers and skulkers who rejoined the Army soon after the battle.* The loss of the enemy was reported at five thousand three hundred and nine killed, wounded and missing. It was smaller than our own, as he fought mostly behind his works or in the shelter of the woods.

It is not altogether useless now to discuss the cause of this unfortunate disaster. That the battle was well planned there can be no question. That the plan was either misunderstood, or but feebly carried out by those officers to whom its execution on the left wing was entrusted, is equally without question. General Burnside is a man of quick perceptions and of great activity of mind. It is possible that he may have supposed that his subordinate officers comprehended the movements which he designed as well as he did himself, and so he may have neglected to explain their character and scope as fully as their importance demanded. It is characteristic of such minds to project themselves, as it were, upon the minds of others, and to take many things for granted which require an elaborate unfolding. General Burnside supposed that he had made it perfectly clear to General Franklin, both in conversation and by his orders, that the heights near Captain Hamilton's were to be occupied, "if possible," and that that was to be done "at once"—early in the morning—by "a well supported" attack, and, moreover, that the whole command upon the left was to be kept "in readiness to move at once, as soon as the fog" should lift. Had General Franklin possessed the quickness of appreciation for which his chief had generously given him the credit, and had he strongly resolved upon a successful obedience to the command which he had received, the result would have been more creditable to our arms. General Franklin must have known that a most important movement was expected of him. Else why had a hundred thousand men been sent across the river, and a very large portion of them placed under his command? The heights near Captain Hamilton's were the key to the enemy's position. Had they been occupied successfully the Rebel army would have been cut in twain and handsomely routed. The road to Richmond would have been opened, for, at that time, no intrenchments and defensive works existed. General Meade had the coveted point in his possession, but lost it because he was not supported, while fifty thousand men were standing idle within two miles of him in his rear. It was an additional illustration to those in which the war of the Rebellion was fruitful, of the loss of great advantages through a want of cooperation or a miscomprehension of the importance of the occasion on the part of subordinate officers.

General Meade was very confident at the time that victory would have rested with our arms had his attack upon General Lee's right wing been properly supported. Not only did he express this opinion before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, but also before the public. An address which he delivered, on the occasion of a presentation of a sword by a number of officers and men of his division, a few months after the battle, was reported and printed in the public journals of the time. In the course of that address, General Meade said: "I speak of Fredericksburg, where the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps crossed and led the advance, unaided and alone, up the heights, and held their position for half an hour while the others crossed. Had they been followed and supported by other

troops, their courage that day would have won a victory."

Corroborative evidence of this fact is to be found in a declaration, first made in Daniel's, and repeated in Cook's Life of Stonewall Jackson—one of those instances of unconscious testimony which are so valuable in determining questionable points. It was at the time of General Meade's withdrawal from his attack, when he was pressed back by Jackson's entire corps, that Jackson had determined to assault in turn. "Those who saw him at that hour," says the narrative, "will never forget the expression of intense but suppressed excitement which his face displayed. The genius of battle seemed to have gained possession of the great leader, ordinarily so calm; and his countenance glowed as from the glare of a great conflagration." Such excitement does not occur in persons of such military ability as Jackson undoubtedly was, except upon great emergencies—in times when great perils have been escaped, or when great enterprises are upon the eve of successful consummation, or when all the resources of the nature are required to command and change unfavorable circumstances and give a new character to unfortunate events. That this was a time of exceeding danger to the enemy's army, which demanded the exercise of every military resource to avert disaster, no one can doubt who has followed in thought the charge of General Meade, and has judged what the result would probably have been if General Franklin had followed up and supported the gallant advance of the Pennsylvania Reserves.*

General Franklin had one of the finest opportunities ever offered to a man for gaining a world-wide distinction, and he neglected to improve it. He was unequal to the occasion. A glittering prize was within his grasp, and he refused to reach forth and take it. Was he wilfully blind, or was he unable to perceive its value? However it may have been, it was a loss which could not be remedied. Such an opportunity comes but seldom in a life-time. It did not come again to General Franklin, and, since that day, he has quietly settled into obscurity. A subsequent failure in Louisiana, springing from causes similar to that at Fredericksburg, extinguished his hopes of military renown, and, having been dropped in his regimental rank in the Regular Army, as Colonel of the Twelfth Infantry, he resigned his commission soon after the close of the war, and retired into private life.

General Burnside, however, wished to spare his subordinate commanders, and was unwilling to adopt the cheap expedient of throwing upon them the blame of the defeat. His language concerning them has always been particularly generous. But for the honor of our military service, the country would have been glad to witness and record a heartier cooperation of many of the officers of the Army of the Potomac with the commanding general.

General Lee did not receive a great amount of commendation for his conduct at the battle of Fredericksburg. It was thought by the people of his section of the country that he might have done more with the means which he possessed for the injury of General Burnside's army. It certainly exhibited no surpassing skill to keep one's troops in a defensive position, and to be content with simply resisting an attack from sheltered and almost impregnable works. Why did he not come out from his defences on second day, and make an assault upon our forces in the open field? If the victory had been as decisive as some had thought it, he had every facility for disabling the Army of the Potomac to such a degree as virtually to destroy it as an organized force. If this army had suffered such a disastrous defeat as was represented, why was it allowed to remain unmolested for two days? With a river in its rear, it could have made but slight resistance to a vigorous assault, delivered by an army already flushed with a great success, gained at little cost. Or, if General Lee did not wish to take the risk of such an attempt, he could at least have opened his batteries upon the force which lay beneath his guns, incapable of further exertion. It is hinted by Southern writers that some sinister influence was at work at the enemy's headquarters which prevented the gathering of the spoils which were within the grasp of the Rebel army. By what secret force the hand of General Lee was restrained it is now impossible to say. Whether there was any such force or not is a matter of question. The fact doubtless was that General Lee, a man of slow mind, had formed no plan of defence which could be made available for attack. He was in doubt respecting General Burnside's intentions for a subsequent movement, and he hesitated to take the initiative, preferring to await the development of events. It is possible, also, that General Lee's resources of ammunition and other supplies did not warrant him in a renewal of hostilities. Both his generalship and his material were equally lacking. Moreover, it may have been the case—and this is doubtless the true reason for General Lee's inaction—that the Army of the Potomac had not suffered so serious a disaster as the exaggerated reports of the battle at first led the country to believe. General Burnside would not have been sorry to have met General Lee outside his intrenchments. President Lincoln's address to the Army, which was published a few days after the battle, contained a truthful declaration when it stated, that "the attempt was not an error, nor the failure other than an accident." The Army of the Potomac, though it had been somewhat rudely shaken, was still in effective condition. There was no general demoralization or despondency, and it was soon ready to prove, on other and more successful fields, that it possessed those qualities of persistence, courage and self-

* The following conversation, which is authentically reported as having taken place between Generals Meade and Lee, at the headquarters of the latter, shortly after his surrender, may throw some light upon the subjects discussed in the text:

GENERAL MEADE. At Fredericksburg, General Lee, I pierced your line, and if I had been supported, as I expected to be, I should have defeated you.

GENERAL LEE. Yes, General; that is true.

MEADE. After I was driven back to the banks of the river, why did you not follow up your success? You then had the Army of the Potomac at an advantage at which you never held it before nor since.

LEE. I knew that at the time, and issued order after order to attack you; but I could not succeed in getting my orders obeyed.

MEADE. Indeed! How was that? We always thought that the discipline of your army was almost perfect.

LEE. (Bitterly.) Far from it, General. That disposition which my officers had to think and act for themselves prevented me from reaping the benefits of almost all my successes, and thwarted almost all my plans of campaign.

reliance which would, in "the fullness of time," ensure for it a complete and permanent triumph!

GENERAL VON MOLTKE.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* publishes the following notes on the late war, and General Von Moltke:

General Von Moltke is, by birth, a Mecklenburger, not a Holsteiner, as many suppose. He is about sixty years old, very learned, very sparing of words, and very mild and courteous in demeanor. No instance is known in the Army of his having spoken harshly to any one, and his criticism of the acts of subordinates seldom assumes a severe form than that of telling them what he would have done if he had been in their place. He looks more like a professor or a clergyman than a soldier, with his clever, thoughtful, beardless face. Forty years ago he accompanied General Von Muffling to Turkey, witnessed the conclusion of the peace of Adrianople, and wrote a book on the Turco-Russian war, which is of great value to those engaged in military researches. He afterward resided at Rome and other places, and rapidly acquired an extensive knowledge of the various languages of Europe. Napoleon I. would doubtless have regarded him as an ideologue; Wellington would have appreciated him better. When King William I. carried out the reorganization of the Army, and thereby began the conflict with the Chamber, which insisted on a service of two years instead of three, General Von Moltke secretly sympathized with the Opposition, although as a soldier he could not openly express his opinions on the subject. Since the 3d of September, 1814, the three years' service has been sanctioned by law in Prussia. It was, however, on economical grounds, temporarily reduced one year by Frederick William III., with the proviso that the law should be reverted to as soon as the Government should find it necessary to do so. In the campaign of 1848-9 the present King observed that the Landwehr regiments which had served only two years were not very effective, and hesitated to go into fire. This gave him the idea of increasing the service by another year, and the circumstance that the needle-gun had been introduced in 1847, strengthened his determination. It took nearly twenty years to make the use of this gun in the Prussian army general, for even in 1866 some of the Landwehr regiments, those, for instance, which fought at Langensalza, were armed with the old muzzle loaders. It was considered that more time would be required to teach the soldier the use of the new gun than that of the old. Moreover, it was necessary that the discipline should be more strict and the connection between the officers and privates closer than formerly. The soldier was never to fire except by the order of his officer, and it was, besides, the duty of the latter to name the sight which was to be used according to the distance. It was for these reasons that the three years' service was revived, and the conduct of the Prussian troops in the last campaign certainly showed that the plan was effective. General Moltke, however, has so good an opinion of the intelligence of the North German recruits, that he believes a two years' service would produce equally good results.

It was immediately after the Gastein negotiations that General Von Moltke began to prepare the plan for a war with Austria. Its object was, as every one knows, twofold: first, to defend Silesia and Berlin, and second, to carry the war, if possible, into the enemy's territory. The consequence of this plan was the establishment of two separate armies in Silesia and Saxony, which, on assuming the offensive, were to advance each in its own direction until they met. While the armies were separated from each other they were in danger of being attacked and beaten in detail, a danger to which the Crown Prince—whose men had to go through the narrow Saxo-Silesian passes, in some places so narrow that two men only could march abreast—was particularly exposed. The success of this plan obviously depended on a junction of the two armies, which seemed almost impossible, and was undoubtedly hazardous to the extreme. The result, however, justified the risk, although there can be no doubt that Benedek's mistakes greatly contributed to the Prussian success. Benedek wished to do the counterpart of what Frederick the Great had done in the second Silesian war—to catch the enemy in his mousetrap, as Carlyle describes it. But this time the mouse was stronger than the trap.

General Von Moltke, adds the *Gazette*, is reported to be just now on a visit to Switzerland. He has taken up his quarters at Gyon, a mountain village, at a considerable elevation, in the Canton du Valais, and at a short distance from the eastern extremity of Lake Lemman; and is said to be accompanied by his staff, all dressed as civilians. Of course various conjectures are current as to the object of this visit. The General himself says he is seeking repose after his fatigues, but it is said that he and his staff are studying all the passes of the Jura chain from Switzerland into France, and that he has been trying to take photographic views of some Swiss fortifications, only the local authorities prevented him. It is added significantly, that the Prussians have already made themselves perfectly acquainted with the country between Switzerland and the Rhine.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE, }
WASHINGTON CITY, January 28, 1867.

The following are the changes in this Department since last report:

Ordered to report in person at Headquarters of the Military Division of Missouri at St. Louis, Mo., for assignment to duty in that division: Brevet Major J. W. Barringer, Commissary of Subsistence; Brevet Major C. B. Penrose, Commissary of Subsistence. Major Penrose will remain on duty in the Subsistence Bureau as a member of the Board convened by the Commissary-General of Subsistence for the revision of the subsistence regulations, until relieved from that duty by the head of the Bureau.

So much of Special Orders No. 3, dated January 4, 1866, as honorably mentions out of the service of the United States Captain Nathaniel Pope (Brevet Major), Commissary of Subsistence of Volunteers, is so amended by Special Orders No. 23, dated January 15, 1867, as to read, "to take effect March 1, 1866."

* Dr. Letterman, Medical Director of the Army, declares that "while the battle was in progress and after it was over, nearly one thousand men (no one of whom had a wound of any consequence and many were uninjured) jumped in the cars and climbed on the top, at the depot near Fredericksburg, and went to Aquia Creek, where they knew no hospitals were established." Medical Recollections, p. 54.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

The engines are being placed aboard the *Contocook* (second rate).

The steamer *Peoria*, Commander O. C. Badger, sailed from New York on the 16th ultimo for Hampton Roads, Va.

The steamer *Winoski*, Commander G. H. Cooper, sailed from Havana on 21st January, for a cruise on the south side of Cuba.

The steamer *Shamrock*, commander William E. Hopkins, was at Porto Grande, St. Vincent, Cape de Verde Islands, on September 30th last.

Rear-Admiral James S. Palmer, commanding North Atlantic Squadron, hoisted his flag on board the *Susquehanna* on the 23d ultimo.

The store-ship *Ino*, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Walter H. Garfield, arrived at the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 26th instant, from Lisbon, Portugal.

The Naval Board of which Paymaster Robert Pettit is President, in session at Philadelphia, has adjourned, it having completed its duties.

In Baltimore the U. S. revenue steamer *Mosswood* was burned to the water's edge, on the 27th ult., at a shipyard where she was being repaired.

The steamer *Madawaska*, Commander F. A. Roe, at the Navy-yard, New-York, has been ordered to be put out of commission, which order was executed on the 30th ult.

The supply steamer *Memphis*, Acting Volunteer Lieutenant Goringe, arrived at the Navy-yard Pensacola, on 22d January, with supplies for that yard and the Gulf Squadron.

Dispatches have been received at the Navy Department announcing the arrival of the U. S. steamer *Lancaster* at Barbadoes, thus contradicting all the reports of her loss.

A DISPATCH from Paris of the 22d ult., states that screw steamer *Sontara*, 10, with John H. Surratt on board, recently touched Port Mahon, and after coaling sailed for the United States.

Commander J. M. Bradford, commanding steamer *Reason*, under date of December 16th last, reports that he intended to sail from Pernambuco, Brazil, on the following day, en route to the Pacific.

A CORRESPONDENT in Rio Janeiro says that the screw steamer *Mohican*, 7, after coaling at that port would proceed to Montevideo and through the Straits of Magellan, on the way to the North Pacific.

The Naval Examining Board of which Commodore S. P. Lee is President, now in session at Hartford, Conn., will be removed to Washington, D. C., this week and assemble at the Navy Department.

The steamer *Oceola*, at the Navy-yard, Boston, has been ordered to duty in the North Atlantic Squadron. She will relieve the *Florida*, which latter vessel has been ordered North to recruit her crew.

At the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy-yard, all work has been suspended on the *Minnesota* (frigate). She has been thoroughly outfitted, coaled and provisioned, and awaits the further orders of the Department.

Commander E. Simpson, commanding steamer *Mohican*, reports his arrival at Rio de Janeiro, on the 19th of December last, four days from Bahia. He was to sail for Monte Video as soon as he could make the necessary repairs to the engine.

REVENUE MARINE SERVICE.—The Secretary of the Treasury is having eight sailing vessels built for the Revenue Marine Service, to be ready in April next. Four of these are building at Philadelphia, two at Williamsburg, and two at Baltimore.

The steamer *Pioneer*, Captain M. B. Woolsey, sailed from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., for New York, on the 23d ultimo, on her way to the South Atlantic Squadron, and arrived there on the 21st ult. As soon as she completes the complement of her crew she will proceed on her cruise.

Rear-Admiral Godon, on board the *Brooklyn*, announces his arrival at Monte Video on December 9th last, after a stormy passage of twelve days. He found in port the steamer *Pensacola*, which had touched there en route to join the North Pacific Squadron, also the steamer *Wasp*. The steamer *Kansas* was at Buenos Ayres.

Rear-Admiral J. A. Dahlgren reports his arrival in the Bay of Callao on the 23d of December last, where he found at anchor the steamers *Dacotah*, *Waterloo* and *Nyack*. The *Dacotah* was to sail in a few days to relieve the *Tuscarora* at Valparaiso, when the *Tuscarora* would be ordered to cruise southward as far as Valdivia, touching at the principal intermediate ports, with instructions to afford such aid as American interests might require.

The U. S. steamer *Vanderbilt*, flagship of Admiral Thatcher, was in the harbor of San Francisco 29th ult., awaiting the arrival of the *Pensacola*. The *Saranac* was expected from the Mexican coast. The *Mohongo* is at Acapulco. The *Sweeney* is at Mazatlan. The *Saginaw* is at the Mare Island Navy-yard. The latter remains attached to the Russian telegraph expedition. These, with the old store-ship *Jameson*, compose the North Pacific Squadron.

As an exception, probably never equalled by any disbursement of the Government, it is mentioned that on the settlement of the accounts by the Fourth Auditor of Garrett R. Barry, Paymaster in the Navy, up to January, 1867, which accounts involved an expenditure of \$14,732,655 12, there was found a difference of only 25 cents between the accounts as presented by the Paymaster and as audited by the Fourth Auditor.

The Navy Register for the year 1867 has been issued, and gives the status of the officers of the Navy and Marine Corps on the 1st day of January, 1867. It shows that since January, 1866, 25 vessels have been sold and one, the *New Ironsides*, destroyed by fire. Of the iron-clads 21 are laid up at League Island, 10 at New Orleans, 8 at Mount City, 6 at Washington, 2 at Boston, and 2 at San Francisco. The entire number of vessels of all kinds is

274. Beside Admiral Farragut and Vice-Admiral Porter, there are 10 Rear-Admirals on the active list, and 17 on the retired list.

At the Philadelphia yard the vessels in course of construction make slow progress. Screw steamer *Antietam*, 23, will be the first launched. Sailing sloop *St. Louis* is ordered up from League Island for repairs, being designed as a receiving ship at League Island. The iron-clad basin at that point is a separate department from the yard, and the force will consist of 200 men, who will have quarters on the *St. Louis*. The change is due to the recent destruction of iron-clad *New Ironsides*. Iron-clad *Modoc*, 1 (torpedo boat), is still undergoing repairs.

The supply steamer *Massachusetts* arrived at New-York on last Saturday. The following is a list of her officers: Acting Master Commanding, Robert Y. Holley; Acting Master and Pilot, Philander Dickinson; Acting Ensign and Executive Officer, John Lourie; Acting Ensigns, F. G. R. Lennan, Robert Hunter, Henry W. O'Hara, Wm. Robinson; Passed Assistant Paymaster, W. F. V. Torbert; Acting Assistant Surgeon, Samuel P. Boyer; Engineers—First Assistant, Thomas Dobbs; Second Assistants, H. F. Hayden, Samuel H. Magee, Benjamin James; Third Assistants, Charles F. Dyce, Edward J. Swords; Mates, Charles H. Thorne, William Parks, A. M. Bergner. The *Massachusetts* left Key West on Saturday, January 19th, for New-York. On the night of the 20th encountered, off Cape Canaveral, a heavy gale from south to southwest. Monday evening, January 21st, at 5 p. m., off Hilton Head, communicated with the United States steamer *Conemaugh*. The U. S. steamer *Memphis* sailed from Key West January 19th for Pensacola. Vessels left in port: U. S. surveying steamer *Corwin*, U. S. revenue cutter *Wilderness*, U. S. steamer *Chicora*. On passing Cape Hatteras she encountered strong gales from the north and northwest, with a high sea running, and arrived in port and anchored off the Battery on the evening of the 26th, at fifteen minutes past six.

The United States ship *Ino* arrived at Boston on the 25th ult., after a very rough passage of forty-three days from Lisbon, Portugal. Her officers are: Acting Lieutenant W. H. Garfield, commanding; Acting Master W. H. Mallard, Executive Officer; Paymaster, Horatio L. Wait; Assistant Paymaster, Acting Surgeon William Gale; Acting Ensigns, William C. Gibson, John W. Almy, James Sofhy, W. F. Hodgkinson; Mates, John Roeling, Robert Robinson, Geo. E. Simmons, Fredk. Miller; Captain's Clerk, George N. Hill; Paymaster's Clerk, B. Rush Souder. She brings as passengers Acting Volunteer Lieutenant James R. Wheeler, from the United States steamer *Augusta*, and Acting Third Assistant Engineer Frederick W. Moore, Jr., from United States steamer *Ticonderoga*, a number of sick, and men for discharge from the various vessels of the European squadron, as well as a quantity of mail matter. She left the United States store-ship *Guard* stationed at Lisbon. On the 6th of December, a few days before her departure, the balance of the squadron sailed for the Mediterranean, the *Miantonomoh* and *Augusta* going to Cadiz, the *Colorado* to Marseilles, *Ticonderoga* to Port Mahon, and *Erie* to Civita Vecchia; the *Canandaigua* and *Sucatawa* were cruising in the Mediterranean; and the *Shamrock* was on the coast of Africa station. She experienced continuous westerly gales during the latter part of her passage; on January 2, in latitude 31 degrees 25 minutes north, longitude 48 degrees 30 minutes west, took a heavy blow from the west; barometer ranging unusually low, being down to 29.94 at one time; was hove to for eight days, part of the time under a close-reefed main-top-sail; saw several vessels during the blow. On the 9th instant passed very near a large bark scudding under bare poles. On the 14th, during the severe weather, Geo. G. Richards, landsman, one of the invalids, died. On the night of the 16th instant while hove to in a southwest blow, the barometer went down to 29.91. During all the heavy weather the ship behaved well, sustaining no damage beyond the loss of foremast staysail, staving of one boat and washing away of life buoys. On the night of the 23d instant in latitude 42 degrees 18 minutes north, latitude 65 degrees 57 minutes west, passed a large ship with main and mizzen masts gone and sails furled on her fore, that was apparently water-logged and abandoned; made signals but received no answer; could not communicate with her, as it was blowing a gale of wind and the ship was under close-reefed topsails at the time; on the same and succeeding days passed floating spars and other wrecked material.

The Light-house Board have issued the following notices to mariners:

United States of America—Coast of North Carolina.—Wade's Point Light-house.—The light-house at Wade's Point, mouth of Pasquotank River, Albemarle Sound, North Carolina, has been restored, and will be lighted on and after the evening of February 6, 1867. The light is a fixed white light. It is elevated thirty-five feet above the level of the sea, and should be seen, in clear weather, from a distance of ten miles. The illuminating apparatus is a Fresnel lens of the fourth order. The structure consists of a foundation of screw piles, painted and surmounted by a house (with lantern on top) painted white.

France—North Coast.—Alteration of Tide Lights at Calais.—Official information has been received at this office that, on and after the 15th day of December, 1866, the following alteration will be made in the tide lights at the Port of Calais, France. The light exhibited at the end of the east jetty will be accompanied by two small fixed red lights, for the better indication of the depth of water in the channel. The white light alone indicates a depth of ten feet water throughout the whole length of the channel, a red light below the white one indicates a depth of thirteen feet, a red light above the white one a depth of sixteen feet, and the three lights together a depth of twenty feet.

Baltic—Coast of Prussia.—Beacon on the Cosorow and Vineta Shoals.—Also, that a beacon post has been placed outside and eastward of the Cosorow and Vineta shoals on the coast of Pomerania, Prussia. The beacon post is painted black, with two black balls placed one above the other, and is also marked with the letters C. and V. U.; it is twenty-five feet high, stands in six fathoms water, and from it the Streckberg beacon bears S. by W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. nearly two miles; it can be seen from a distance of about four miles.

Mediterranean—Algeria.—Light at Oran.—Official information has been received at this office that a light has been established at the new port of Oran in Algeria. The light is green, and is one hundred feet from the extremity of the mole now in the course of construction. It can be seen from a distance of three miles. The entrance to the old port continues to be indicated by a red light. These lights are not exhibited in bad weather.

Africa—Southeast Coast.—Revolving Light at Port Natal.—With reference to Notice to Mariners No. 75, issued from this office, dated October 27, 1866, relative to a light being exhibited from a light-house newly erected on the bluff at the entrance of Port Natal, the government of Natal has given notice that, on and after the 23d day of January, 1867, the light will be exhibited. The light is a revolving white light, attaining its great brilliancy every two minutes. It

is elevated two hundred and ninety-two feet above the level of the sea, and in clear weather should be seen from a distance of twenty-four miles. The illuminating apparatus is dioptric, or by lenses of the second order. The tower is iron, conical, eighty-one feet high, and painted white; it is in latitude 29 deg. 52 min. 50 sec. south, longitude 31 deg. 3 min. 35 sec. east of Greenwich.

Directions.—The light on Cape Natal not being visible from the Allwal shoal, care must be taken, on making for Port Natal from the southwest, not to approach the shore nearer than four miles, or to a less depth of water than forty fathoms, until the light is well made out from the deck, when in standing in it may be brought to bear N. E. by E.; this will lead outside all known dangers while to the south of Umlasi River (nine and a half miles from the light-house); but when to the northward of the Umlasi River the light must be brought to bear more to the northward, keeping a long mile from the land. When the light bears W. S. W., haul in to the northward for the anchorage, anchoring in eight and a half to ten fathoms water, with the light bearing S. W. or S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. distant one mile. [All bearings are magnetic. Variation 27 deg. west in 1866.]

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY 21.—Gunner Joseph Swift, to duty on board the *Susquehanna*.

JANUARY 22.—Third Assistant Engineer Henry F. Loreaire, to duty on board the *Michigan*.

JANUARY 25.—Second Assistant Engineer George R. Holt, to duty at the Naval Academy.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 22.—Captain Roger N. Stembel, from the command of the *Canandaigua*, and placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 23.—Paymaster Robert Pettit, from duty as President of the Board of Examiners at Philadelphia, and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster James D. Murray, from duty as a member of the Board of Examiners at Philadelphia, and ordered to resume his duties on the receiving ship *Constellation*.

Paymaster James Fulton, and Passed Assistant Paymaster William W. Woodhull, from duty as members of the Board of Examiners at Philadelphia, and placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 25.—Captain James H. Strong, from duty as Inspector at the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to command the *Canandaigua*, in the European Squadron.

PROMOTED.

JANUARY 26.—Assistant Paymaster A. W. Bacon, of the steamer *Marblehead*, to Passed Assistant Paymaster, from August 1, 1866.

Assistant Paymaster F. Clarence Inlay, of the steamer *Miantonomoh*, to Passed Assistant Paymaster, from November 7, 1866.

Assistant Paymaster Rufus S. McConnell, of the steamer *Nipsic*, to Passed Assistant Paymaster, from November 27, 1867.

ORDERS REVOKED.

JANUARY 21.—Midshipmen John J. Hunker and Washburne Maynard, from duty on board the *Susquehanna*, and placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 25.—Captain Charles W. Pickering, to command a vessel in the European Squadron.

APPOINTED.

JANUARY 23.—Acting Carpenter Oliver W. Griffiths, of the *Saranac*, a Carpenter.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

JANUARY 22.—Midshipman E. P. Turner, of the Naval Academy.

JANUARY 24.—Midshipman Edward T. Welles, of the Naval Academy.

JANUARY 23.—Assistant Surgeon Frederick Krecker.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY 25.—Acting Third Assistant Engineer Russell A. Wade, to temporary duty on board the *Chatanga*.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 22.—Mate Thomas Pindar, from duty on board the ship *Polomac*, and granted leave of absence.

JANUARY 23.—Acting Volunteer Lieutenant F. F. Baur, from the Naval Hospital, New York, and granted sick leave.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED.

JANUARY 21.—Mate Collins J. Andrews, of the ship *Polomac*.

JANUARY 24.—Acting Third Assistant Engineer John M. Young, of the *Paul Jones*.

PLACED ON LEAVE FOR HONORABLE DISCHARGE.

JANUARY 22.—Acting Ensign Otis A. Thompson.

MISCELLANEOUS.

JANUARY 23.—The order of November 23, 1866, revoking the appointment of Mate Edwin H. Richards, is hereby revoked, and he is honorably discharged from that date.

LIST OF VOLUNTEER NAVAL OFFICERS

Who have been honorably discharged from the service of the United States since last report:

Mate Arthur B. Arey, January 23d.
Acting Assistant Paymasters Josiah H. Benton, September 25th, and Edward D. Hayden, February 2d.
Acting Chief Engineers James B. Fulton, January 15th, and Joseph V. Starr, January 24th.
Acting Second Assistant Engineer Richard Nash, July 15, 1865.
Acting Third Assistant Engineer William H. Allen, January 10 h.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, for the week ending January 26, 1867:

Michael Hughes, landsman, January 8th Naval Hospital, Pensacola.
Timothy Madigan, landsman, January 12th, Naval Hospital, New York.
Charles A. Giequel, carpenter's mate, January 4th, U. S. steamer *Jameson*.
Alfred Blackstone, second-class fireman, January 17th, U. S. steamer *Madawaska*.
William Bernice, gunner, January 21st, Philadelphia.
Thomas Tompkins, ordinary seaman, January 4th, Naval Hospital, Norfolk.
Alfred S. Brower, second assistant engineer, January 17th, Brooklyn, N. Y.

ARMY GAZETTE.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

APPOINTED HOSPITAL STEWARD U. S. ARMY.

Recruit William McCall, general service U. S. Army, and ordered to report in person to the commanding officer Fort Wood, New York Harbor, for assignment to duty.

DISCHARGED.

Hospital Stewards Charles Constantine and David Henderson, U. S. Army.

RELIEVED.

Hospital Steward Richard Wall, U. S. Army, from duty in the Surgeon-General's office, and ordered to report in person to the Medical Director Department of the Platte, Omaha, Nebraska, for assignment to duty.

MILITIA DEPARTMENT.

MILITIA ITEMS.

STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.—We publish elsewhere the amendments to the Military Code recommended at the last meeting of the Military Association of the State of New York. It is doubtless of much importance that the officers of the National Guard of the State should meet together at least once a year for the purpose of consulting on matters which pertain to the military interests of the State, but we do not think that the interest is felt in the State Military Association which could and would be felt were it differently managed. It must be remembered that in the Association a Second Lieutenant and a Brigadier-General meet on an equal footing, because neither is there as the representative of any portion of the National Guard except his individual self. As a result of this we find a great diversity of opinion, and consequently the doings of the Association have very little weight either with the Governor or the Assembly. Again, on the first day of the sitting of the Association its time is frittered away in a number of complimentary resolutions, inviting to seats in the Hall a number of dignitaries who never think of attending the meeting. Toward the close of the first day's session a Committee on Amendments is appointed, whose duty it is at 10 o'clock on the succeeding day to report all the amendments needed to make the law what it should be. As these gentlemen are unprepared for such duty, and many have come to gain rather than give information, it is hardly to be expected that their report will cover all the points it should; and as the second day is chiefly consumed in debating on the report of the committee, the meeting adjourns after hearing an address on the evening of the second day, having accomplished very little work.

Thus we find that although the subject of enlistments in the National Guard was attracting much attention in military circles at the time of the meeting of the State Association, no notice whatever is taken of this subject by the Association. An attempt to point out all the changes necessary to make the Military Association such a power as it should be would consume more space than we can now devote to the subject. It is very evident, however, that the Committee on Amendments should be appointed at one meeting to report the next, and that the various regiments of the State should be requested to send delegates to the Association pledged to advocate certain reforms. It is, however, very evident that a decided change must be made in the Association if it is desired to make it a power in the military legislation of the State.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—The fifth annual reception of Company B, of this regiment, took place at the Brooklyn Athenaeum on Thursday evening, the 24th ult. The decorations of the room were very tasty, being the same used on the occasion of Company A's reception on the previous Monday, save that the letter B was placed in the centre of the cluster of bayonets on a star—the letter A on the former occasion being placed upon a shield. One of these clusters of bayonets was placed behind the letter B in gas jets, which was suspended over the stage, producing a very pleasing effect. The number of guests who attended the reception on last Thursday was quite large, and sometimes the floor was uncomfortably crowded, as all present appeared desirous of dancing, and the floor was filled with dancers immediately upon the sounding of the note of preparation. The Floor Committee, however, attended to their duties in an efficient manner, and all went on smoothly despite the crowd. The officers and members of the company were in uniform, the sombre gray and blue contrasting very nicely with more brilliant colors of the ladies' dresses. The Reception Committee, consisting of Captain C. E. Goldthwaite, Lieutenants H. J. Graff and Wm. J. Martin, and ex-Lieutenants James E. Raymond and D. C. Bosworth, were distinguished by a silver star, and were particularly attentive and efficient in seeing that their guests enjoyed themselves. The Executive Committee, wearing a star and tassel, was composed of Lieutenant W. J. Martin, Sergeants George P. Willets and D. W. Ketcham, Corporal T. W. Robinson, and Private C. F. Hawley. The Floor Committee (gold star) consisted of Sergeant George P. Willets, Corporal C. H. Cotton, and Privates G. B. Ward, A. M. Wilder and S. P. Robinson. The music for the reception was furnished by the regimental band under the leadership of M. Papet, and the order of dancing comprised some twenty-two selections. Among the officers present were Lieutenant-Colonel R. O. Ward, of the regiment, Colonel Steele, inspector of the Second division, and quite a number of the members of the various organizations of the Second division. The reception of Company B was a very pleasant affair, and all who attended it left much indebted to the members of the company for the pleasant evening they had passed.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—The third annual ball of this regiment was given on Thursday evening of last week, January 31st, at the Germania Assembly Rooms. The Fifth is one of the best if not the best German regiment of the First division, and is always sure to attract much attention when it turns out for parade. The members of the Fifth are moreover a most sociable set of men, and the ball last week was, as a consequence, attended by a very large number of their lady and gentlemen friends. The rooms were very handsomely decorated, reflecting great credit on the taste of the decorator, Drum-Major Theodore Gunsel, of the Ninety-sixth regiment. The ball room was lighted from the ceiling by two large reflectors, which threw down a flood of light upon the flags of the various nationalities, preëminent among which were the stars and stripes and the rising sun of New York State. In fact, one of the most striking decorations of the room was a sun in gas jets, which elicited much remark and admiration. In the corners at one end of the room were miniature fountains of rose water. A very happy conceit in the decoration consisted of two glass globes suspended from the ceiling so as to fall immediately beneath each of the reflectors. These globes were highly polished, the reflection of the movements of the dancers on their surfaces producing a beautiful panorama in miniature. The geniality which pervaded the company present, however, was even more pleasing than the decorations of the room, being, in fact, a chief characteristic of the entertainments of our German citizens.

The ball was opened by a grand march, during which a figure 5 was formed under the direction of Colonel Anton Meyer. Among the guests present we noticed a very large representation of the officers of the division, among whom were General Aspinwall and Captain Brown of his staff, General Burger and Captain Frohlich of his staff, General Darling of the Governor's staff, General Bendix, Colonels Conkling, Carr, Hawkins, Reid, Mason, Captain Carrington of General Varian's staff, and many others. The music was excellent; that for dancing being furnished by the regimental band under the leadership of Professor Wannemacher, the Governor's Island band under Charles Rehn, furnishing the promenading music. Colonel Meyer and his officers were very attentive to their guests, and our

representative is under particular obligations to Quartermaster Brehm and Assistant Quartermaster Lutz for their kind attention. The supper was a good one, the wine and speeches flowing freely. We noticed that, although the entertainment was kept up until nearly daybreak, the guests seemed even then loath to leave.

First Lieutenant H. Harman of Company F, has been elected Captain of Company D. Company D of this regiment, Lieutenant Michael, were surprised on Monday evening by a number of their lady friends, who soon induced the company to substitute the quadrille for the movements of the company and waiters for the manual of arms.

An election will shortly be held to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Major Hillenbrand to the position of Lieutenant-Colonel. Captains P. Kraeger and John E. Meyer are the most prominent candidates for the position. Captain Kraeger is very highly spoken of as a tactician and soldier.

EIGHTH REGIMENT.—Colonel W. S. Carr, of this regiment, on the 25th ult. issued General Orders No. 1, assuming command of the regiment. The following is an abstract of the order: Regimental headquarters are located at No. 157 Centre street, southwest corner of Canal. Relying upon the support of every officer and member in the corps to work faithfully and labor to preserve and increase the high reputation this regiment now enjoys, it will be necessary for every officer to qualify himself to fill the position he may hold. Every member of the regiment must attend all drills of his company or regiment that may be ordered, being the only way to keep up discipline. Punctuality will be a standing order in this command. Company courts-martial will hold all delinquents to a strict accountability for any dereliction of company by-laws; regimental courts-martial for all delinquents from regimental drills or parades. Delinquent commissioned officers to be returned, in all cases, to brigade court-martial. Uniforms belonging to the State must be worn on duty only, and no portion of them be loaned under any pretence whatever. This order from headquarters is deemed necessary, overcoats having been lent to members of target companies on several occasions. Deeming it of vital importance for the welfare and discipline of our corps that the non-commissioned officers should be selected for their intelligence and attention to duty as soldiers, and wishing to test their ability, a Board of Examination for non-commissioned officers is hereby appointed, to meet at the regimental armory at such time as the commanding officer may direct. Detail for said Board—Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. Scott, Captain John Appleton, and Captain Theodore A. Van Tassel. At all sessions of said Board the members thereof, and all members of this command who may be ordered before it, will attend fully uniformed, armed and equipped. The Examining Board for non-commissioned officers will meet at the armory on Monday, February 5th, at 8 o'clock p. m., to examine such non-commissioned officers as may be sent before them. In compliance with General Orders No. 1, from brigade headquarters, all the commissioned officers of this regiment will assemble for drill, at the State Arsenal, Thirty-fifth street and Seventh avenue, on Monday, February 11th, at 7 1/2 o'clock p. m., in undress uniform, side arms, and without sash. A drill of commissioned and non-commissioned officers will be held at the regimental armory on Wednesday, January 30th, and Friday, February 1st. Line will be formed at 7 1/2 o'clock p. m. These drills will be strictly private; none but the above officers in uniform admitted. On and after the first week in February, companies assembling for drill on the same night will unite and drill by division, except Companies A, G and K, which will assemble on Friday night of each week, for the same purpose, until further orders. At these drills captains will act as field officers, lieutenants as captains, under the supervision of a field officer. The following elections are announced: William S. Carr, Colonel, vice Joshua M. Varian, promoted, rank December 27, 1866; George D. Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel, vice O. F. Wentworth, promoted, rank December 27, 1866; William Robinson, Major, vice William S. Carr, promoted, rank December 27, 1866.

The officers of this regiment propose to give a series of six social hops at the armory. The first of the series will take place either on or about the 22d inst.

Messrs. Wm. E. Chapin and F. O. Johnson have obtained the sanction of Colonel Carr, and intend raising a company for this regiment, which is to be designated by the letter "I."

Company H, of this regiment, Captain John Farrell commanding, were surprised on Monday evening, the 25th ult., while drilling at the armory, by a company of young ladies. The real surprise of the evening, however, was the presentation of a sash, pair of shoulder straps and cap ornament to Captain Farrell by Lieutenant Dunn, who presented them on behalf of the company in a neat speech, to which the Captain replied in an appropriate manner. The company and those who surprised them spent the evening in dancing, etc.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE.—At the annual meeting of the Military Association of the State of New York, held at Albany, January 15 and 16, 1867, the following amendments to the Military Code were, by resolution, recommended, viz:

1. That sections 24, 27, 30 be amended by striking out the words "sixty-four," wherever they occur, and inserting in lieu thereof the words "thirty-two." Also, by striking out the words "five hundred and twelve," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "three hundred and twenty."
2. That section 93 be amended by striking out the words "a Division Inspector," and substituting the words "an Assistant Adjutant-General who shall be Chief of Staff." And by striking out the words "a Brigade Inspector, to serve also as a Brigade Major," and substituting the words "an Assistant Adjutant-General who shall be Chief of Staff."
3. That section 99 be amended by adding thereto the words "to each division an Assistant Inspector-General, with the rank of Colonel; to each brigade an Assistant Inspector-General, or Brigade Inspector, with the rank of Major."
4. That section 102 be amended by striking out the words "with the rank of colonel," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "with the rank of Brigadier-General."
5. That section 101 be amended by striking out the words "with the rank of Major," after the words "to each brigade a Hospital Surgeon," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel."
6. That section 103 be amended by adding to the first section of the paragraph the words "and one Hospital Steward."
7. That section 121 be amended by striking out the words "and fifty dollars for companies not located in cities," and inserting in lieu thereof the words "and one hundred dollars for companies not located in cities."
8. That section 117 be amended by striking out the words "not to exceed," and inserting in lieu thereof the word "of."
9. That section 146 be amended by inserting after the words "military duty," at the end of the first paragraph, the words "and shall be entitled to a deduction in the assessment of his real and personal property to the amount of five hundred dollars, on all classes of taxes. And every person who shall have served seven years, and shall have been honorably discharged, as required by this section, shall, forever after, so long as he remains a citizen of this State, be exempt from jury duty and military taxes."
10. That section 218 be amended by inserting after the words "two dollars" in the first subdivision, the words "for each day," and after the words "six dollars," the words "for each day."
11. That section 317 be amended by adding thereto the following

words: "and any officer who shall have served in the National Guard, continuously and honorably, for a period of ten years, shall have brevet rank next above the rank last held by him."

And it was Resolved, That the amendments recommended to be made to the Military Code, be referred to the Military Committee of both Houses of the Legislature.

The following resolutions were also unanimously adopted: Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be solicited to order an encampment of such portion of the National Guard of the State as may be expedient; the same to be held during the Summer of 1867, and that the Legislature be requested to appropriate the necessary funds to pay the expenses thereof.

Resolved, That our Representatives in the Legislature of this State be requested to direct the Commissioners of the Central Park to set apart and prepare a suitable parade ground in said Park, for the use of the First Division of the National Guard.

Resolved, That some action be taken by this organization, whereby we shall secure an appropriation of \$300,000 for the current year, for the purpose of arming and equipping the National Guard.

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—Colonel J. V. Meserole, commanding this regiment, has issued the following order (General Orders No. 1): This regiment will assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, for instruction as follows: The right wing, Companies B, A, I and G, February 6th and March 6th; left wing, Companies G, E, F and D, February 13th and March 13th; both wings on February 20th and March 20th. First Sergeant's call at 8 o'clock p. m. At the drill of March 20th the band will be in attendance, and the wings will drill in competition. Tickets will be issued for this drill.

Resignations.—Andrew Merrell, Surgeon, Lieutenant Edward W. Taylor, Company G.

Elections.—Henry Irwin, to be Captain Company E; Edward L. Bonney, to be Second Lieutenant Company E; Jacob Boskus, to be Second Lieutenant Company F.

Promotions.—Second Lieutenant Wm. D. Cornell, to be First Lieutenant Company E; Second Lieutenant George A. Fountain, to be First Lieutenant Company F.

Dr. Josiah E. Winants has been appointed Surgeon of this regiment.

SECOND DIVISION.—At a recent meeting of the Fifth and Eleventh brigades a resolution was passed asking the members of Assembly from Kings County to endeavor to defeat Mr. Oakley's bill abolishing the parade ground in Prospect Park, as it was the sense of the division that such a parade ground there was very much needed. At the same meeting it was resolved that the general and staff officers of the division and the field and staff officers of the various regiments assemble monthly for the purpose of bringing the officers together for instruction, etc. The time fixed for the first meeting was Wednesday, February 6th, at the armory of the Thirtieth regiment. We hope quite a large number of officers will be in attendance.

NINTH REGIMENT.—An election was held in Company D, of this regiment, at the regimental armory, on Monday evening, the 19th ult., Lieutenant-Colonel Braine presiding. First Sergeant R. P. Courtney was elected Second Lieutenant, vice Stryker, resigned, and Private Van Neuren (formerly Second Lieutenant in the field) was elected First Sergeant, vice Courtney, promoted; Fourth Sergeant J. A. Theriot was elected Third Sergeant, vice Sinclair, resigned; Private Barlow (formerly Second Lieutenant in the field) was elected Fourth Sergeant, vice Theriot, promoted; Private Bowland was elected Corporal, vice Boyd, resigned. The meeting was a large one, and the elections of the new aspirants were very satisfactory to the company. This company one year ago was the smallest in the regiment, and is now one of the largest, and has a most valuable and energetic Captain in John W. Davis.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.—Company I, of this regiment, Captain Wm. Raynor commanding, gave an invitation hop at the City Assembly Rooms on the 25th ult., and a numerous and select company of ladies and gentlemen were in attendance. Company I is one of the first companies in the Twelfth, and the members and ex-members turned out in full strength to honor the occasion, as also the officers of the regiment; among whom we noticed Colonel Ward, Major McAfee, Acting Adjutant Kirk, who is Lieutenant of Company I, as well as Captains Howe, Byrne, Coggett, and others. Captain Raynor and his officers were very attentive to their guests, and contributed by their efforts to please in making the hop of Company I the decided success it was.

After the monthly meeting of the Board of this regiment the officers present sat down to a collation upon the invitation of the newly elected Colonel and Major. A battalion drill of this regiment took place at the State Arsenal on Wednesday evening, the 30th ult.

BOARD FOR THE EXAMINATION OF BREACH-LOADERS.—Brigadier-General George W. Palmer, Commissary-General of Ordnance and President of the Board for the examination of breach-loaders, on the 30th ult., issued the following circular:

As many of the inventors and manufacturers of breach-loading arms have been unable to produce for examination samples of their arms in time for the present meeting of the Board of Officers convened by Special Orders No. 2, series of 1867, for the examination and trial of the recent improvements and inventions in breach-loading military small-arms, the Board has adjourned to meet again for final examination and trial, at the State Arsenal in this city, on Tuesday, February 19th, at 10 o'clock a. m., and all those having arms which they desire to have entered for examination will please present them on or before that day, and it will be necessary that for each arm presented two hundred cartridges be furnished.

CAVALRY BRIGADE.—An election was held on Monday evening January 28th, to fill the position of Brigade Major of the Cavalry brigade. Brigadier-General Brooke Postley presided, and the following officers were present: Colonel Budke, Lieutenant-Colonel Kueble and Geits, and Majors Brinker and Schmale. Major Littler was absent. The whole number of votes cast was five, of which E. H. V. Kent received the whole number, and was declared duly elected. Major Kent was present, and signified his acceptance of the position. The Major has been in the Regular service, and we congratulate him on his promotion.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—An election to fill the vacancies in the field officers of this regiment will be held on Friday evening, February 8th, at the regimental armory in Fourteenth street. A caucus of the captains of the companies was held on the evening of the 29th ult., when Lieutenant-Colonel Post received the unanimous vote for the position of Colonel. The indications are that Colonel Post will be elected without opposition. Captains Grant and Ramsey will be nominated for the position of Lieutenant-Colonel. Captains Porter and ex-Captains Howland and McGrath are talked of for Major.

EXEMPTION FROM JURY DUTY.—The following petition is being circulated for signatures among the members of the First and Second divisions:

The petition of the undersigned officers and members of the regiment of the National Guard of the State of New York, respectfully shows:

That in the year 1862, the Militia Law of the State, exempting from jury duty all persons who had served for seven years in the State Militia, was amended so as to confine the exemption to the period of actual service.

That the duties of a National Guardsman in the cities of the State,

and especially in New York and Brooklyn, are exceedingly onerous, requiring a large expenditure of both time and money. That persons engaged in business in those cities are very reluctant to enlist in the Militia, as they are held for the term of seven years to a duty at least as burdensome as jury duty; while, in the present condition of the law, they derive no benefit whatever by serving for that period, and that in consequence, it is almost impossible to obtain the recruits necessary for the well-being of the Militia.

Your petitioners would therefore request that the law may be amended so as to provide for the exemption from jury duty of all members of the National Guard who have been honorably discharged after serving continuously therein for the term of seven years. And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Dated New York, December 26, 1866.

DEATH OF THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—A battalion drill of details from the various companies of this regiment was held at the State arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Tuesday evening, the 29th ult. Brevet Brigadier-General Calvin E. Pratt was in command, assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Ward and Acting Adjutant Charles Hunter. The arsenal was well filled with spectators, a large portion of whom were ladies. The regiment looked well, but the drill was far from being a satisfactory one. Although we have frequently had the pleasure of being present at the drills of the Twenty-third regiment, we believe last Tuesday is only the third time we have seen General Pratt in charge of the battalion who assembled for purposes of drill, and it seems to us that the General is neglecting his regiment. From the position we held on the left of the battalion, on last Tuesday, it was impossible for us to distinguish what the commands were, and as the officers commanding the left companies appeared to labor under the same difficulty with ourselves, much confusion was the result. We noticed quite a number of inaccuracies and several bad blunders; for instance, the line was formed from column in such a way that while some of the companies had their files closer in front, others had the front rank in front, and yet this was not noticed or corrected until the battalion was formed again into column, when the captains of the latter companies, of their own accord, counter-marched their companies. It is very evident that a decided reform is needed in the management and drilling of this regiment. The ceremony of dress parade closed the movements of the evening. The men stood steady and looked very well, but the standard bearer was out of his proper position. Although the Twenty-third is composed of superior material it is sadly deficient in matters of detail, and General Pratt should see to it that this fault is remedied.

THIRD REGIMENT.—In compliance with Special Orders No. 2 from headquarters Second brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General Bendix has ordered an election to be held on Tuesday, February 5th, at the armory of this regiment, 114 and 116 East Thirtieth street, at 8 o'clock P. M., to fill the office of Major of this regiment, become vacant by the resignation of George M. Van Hosen.

An appeal having been made to the Commander-in-Chief from the decision of Brigadier-General Burger in the case of the election of Major of the Third regiment of Infantry on the 25th day of November, 1866, the Governor has ordered that the above mentioned election be set aside and that a new one be held. The decision is based on the following grounds:

It appears from the official report and proceedings that the votes of Lieutenants Dillon and Bettridge were refused when offered, and that had they been received the result would have been a tie between the two competing candidates. Lieutenant Dillon being a commissioned officer and not disqualified from exercising the privileges of his office should have been permitted to vote. Lieutenant Bettridge was a commissioned officer, and entitled to all the benefits conferred by his office until the acceptance of his resignation by the Commander-in-Chief, as provided by section eighty-two Military Code. His resignation was not received at the Headquarters of the State, nor was the commission accepted until some days after the election was held, consequently Lieutenant Bettridge was an officer and entitled to all the rights and privileges conferred by his office, and he was amenable to the laws of the State, and liable to all duty required in said laws up to the date of the acceptance of his resignation by the Commander-in-Chief.

The proofs, as furnished, show that, had the votes of Lieutenants Dillon and Bettridge been received, the result would have been a tie between Hamilton and Cox. For this reason, the election held in the Third Regiment on the day previously mentioned is hereby declared to be void.

FIRST REGIMENT.—Captain Henry C. Perley, of this regiment, on the 17th ult. challenged any company of the First Infantry to drill with his command in the manual of arms and company movements any time during the month of April next. This challenge has been accepted by Company A, Captain Gould, commanding. We take great pleasure in announcing to the National Guard that a competitive drill is to take place in the First regiment of the First division during the month of next April. The challenge of Captain Cox, of the Thirty-seventh regiment, not having been accepted by any of the companies of that regiment, to Captains Perley and Gould, of the First regiment, belongs the honor of being the first officers of the First division to engage in a competitive drill.

ELEVENTH BRIGADE.—Brigadier-General Jesse C. Smith, commanding this brigade, has issued an order announcing to his command the death of Fowler Prentice, M. D., the Surgeon of this brigade. Surgeon Prentice served with distinction through the war of the Rebellion, and, although a young man, had achieved a distinguished rank in his profession. His loss will be deeply felt by a large circle of friends through the Army as well as the National Guard.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—The members of Company A, of this regiment, on the evening of Tuesday, January 15th, presented Captain Meade, of Company A, with an elegant album containing the photographs of all the members of the company.

FOURTH REGIMENT.—The officers and non-commissioned officers of this regiment will assemble for drill at the armory of this regiment, in fatigue uniform, on February 7th, 14th and 21st, at 8 o'clock P. M. John Clancy is announced as Quartermaster Sergeant of this regiment, vice G. N. Marbury, relieved.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company I, of this regiment, on Wednesday evening, January 23d, Theodore V. Smith was elected First Sergeant of the company, vice R. P. Wheeler, relieved. On the same evening William Wonnemberg was elected Sergeant, vice Smith, promoted, and Private Peter Braisted, Corporal, vice Wonnemberg, promoted.

FIRST DIVISION.—We are happy to be able to contradict the report that Major-General Shaler does not intend to accept the command of the First division. General Shaler has received his commission, and expects to assume command of the division in a few days.

BROOKLYN CITY GUARD.—Company G, Thirteenth regiment Brooklyn City Guard, give their annual reception at the Assembly Room of the Brooklyn Academy of Music Wednesday evening, February 27th.

SEVENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.—Company B, Seventy-fourth Regiment, will give their seventh annual grand dress social on Monday evening, February 4th. St. James Hall.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE MILITARY BOARD hold their meetings every day in the Adjutant-General's room, at the State House. They expect to close their labors in a week or so. They will submit the result of their deliberations to the Commander-in-Chief, who probably will submit the same to the Legislature. At the proper time we shall lay before our readers the doings of this Board. A Military Committee from both branches of the Legislature hold meetings every Tuesday, and invite officers of the Militia to appear before them and make such representations concerning the Militia as they deem proper. This committee should not be confounded with the Military Board. They have nothing whatever to do with each other.

FIRST REGIMENT INFANTRY, COMPANY G (INDEPENDENT BOSTON FUSILIERS).—The regular monthly inspection of this company took place on Monday evening, January 28th. Thirty-five men were present. Captain Cranston conducted the inspection, which was quite thorough. The company is composed of a very fine body of young men, and their appearance on this inspection was equal to any we have witnessed this Winter. Captain Cranston is an officer of experience, and has served through all the grades from a private to his present position. After the inspection, and while the company was attending to other business, some one hundred young ladies took possession of the armory by surprise. After a few short speeches, and the presentation to the Fusiliers of oil cloth carpet and clock for their library room, music, dancing, refreshments and a general good time was the order of exercises until a late hour.

The Fusiliers will probably carry sixty men to New York on their excursion next June. They will wear their company uniform of gray, and not the State uniform. It is understood that the Seventy-first N. Y. S. N. G. will receive them. The walls of Company G armory have inscribed on them the names of sixteen battles which they have been engaged in.

SEVENTH REGIMENT INFANTRY, BOSTON.—Companies A, B and C inaugurated their company rooms by a collation and the usual amount of speech-making on the morning of the 17th of January. Company F gave a ball at Gray's Hall, South Boston, January 31. Companies H and I will give a ball at Minot Hall, February 7th. Company B will give a ball at Minot Hall, February 23d.

MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA.—Governor Bullock, of Massachusetts, in his recent message speaks of the Militia in that State as follows:

Under the Militia Act of 1836, I thought it expedient to order the whole force under one division only, which was further organized under two brigades. The corps of Independent Cadets was detached from the division and retained subject to the orders of the Commander-in-Chief. The first encampments which were ordered under the act were by brigades, in September last. As this was the first public and organized appearance of the Militia of the State since the opening of the war in 1861, it became my pleasure, as it was equally my duty, to be present and to observe the condition of the organization.

The whole force, including officers and privates, was represented by the number of five thousand and six hundred and fifty-three men, of whom only seven hundred and twenty-six were absent. A large proportion of the force present on duty was composed of those who had served with honor in the recent war. The general appearance in the drill and parade was such as would reflect credit upon the best organized Militia of any State. It is an organization worthy of your continued support and appropriation; suggestive of safety in time of peace, and of power and strength for the exigencies of war. It can only be kept up by a considerable expenditure; but that expenditure, in my opinion, becomes reasonable, and even cheap, in the presence of the memorials of the last six years, and in view of the vicissitudes which may at any time befall us in the future.

I felicitate the gentlemen of the Legislature, and the people of the Commonwealth, that after a war of more than four years' duration, before whose pageantry and power military organizations in peace are too apt to strike the senses as tame and unnecessary, we can so soon count in the three days' duty of camp and drill nearly six thousand of our citizens, willing to meet the irksome duties of peace as they are ready to respond to the calls of war. I trust that it is now settled, that by the liberality and encouragement of legislation, a reasonably large and sufficiently organized Militia is one of the leading adjuncts and supports of the power of Massachusetts. Permit me to commend it to the patronage of the Government and to the favor of the people.

I shall avail myself of the authority conferred by law to ask the counsel of officers upon military questions relating to the organization of the Militia, and may have occasion to communicate, during your session, further suggestions of practical methods. I shall especially inquire as to the expediency of so changing a portion of the muskets, now in store at the arsenal, that they shall conform to the standard which may be adopted by the Federal Government.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD, S. N. Y.

HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Jan. 26, 1867.

The following officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, State of New York, during the week ending January 26, 1867:

DIVISION COMMANDERS.

Alexander Shaler, to be Major-General First division, January 23d, vice Charles W. Sandford, retired.

Joseph B. Carr, to be Major-General Third division, January 23d, vice John Taylor Cooper, retired.

Henry A. Burton, to be Major-General Sixth division, January 23d, vice W. C. Brown, retired.

Craig W. Wadsworth, to be Major-General Seventh division, January 23d, vice W. S. Fullerton, retired.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF.

Moses Blair, to be Assistant Engineer, with rank of Major, January 23d.

THIRD BRIGADE.

Oakman S. Paine, to be Hospital Surgeon, December 22, 1866.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.

John Ward, Jr., to be Colonel, January 4th, vice William G. Ward, promoted.

Knox McAfee, to be Major, January 4th, vice John Ward, Jr., promoted.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT.

George A. Satchell, to be Second Lieutenant, October 18, 1866, vice Patrick Donahue, declined to muster.

TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.

Isaac F. Handy, to be Second Lieutenant, January 19th, vice Charles E. Hamilton, resigned.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.

George M. Dusenbury, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, January 3d, vice C. M. Catlin, resigned.

William Oscar Roome, to be Major, January 3d, vice G. M. Dusenbury, promoted.

FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.

William L. Berrian, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, January 14th, vice Thomas D. O'Neill, deceased.

Edwin Ludlam, to be Major, January 14th, vice John H. Styles, promoted.

John S. Burdick, to be Adjutant, January 14th, vice Edwin Ludlam, promoted.

EIGHTY-SECOND REGIMENT.

Isaac Houck, to be First Lieutenant, January 5th, vice Albert Finkie, resigned.

William Applebee, Second Lieutenant, January 5th, vice Isaac Houck, promoted.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH REGIMENT.

J. J. Buchanan, Second Lieutenant, November 20, 1866, vice Charles Lemagne Fisk, resigned.

William H. Manners, Second Lieutenant, November 6, 1866, vice Edward M. Johnson, resigned.

The following resignations of officers in the National Guard, State of New York, have been accepted by the Commander-in-Chief during the week ending January 19, 1867:

January 17th, Captain F. Mayer, Fifth regiment, term expired.

January 17th, Second Lieutenant Albert T. Scammell, Eighty-fifth regiment, inability.

January 17th, First Lieutenant John D. Clausen, Fifth regiment, term expired.

January 17th, Major John D. Bailey, First Cavalry brigade, disability.

January 17th, First Lieutenant L. C. Tuttle, Eighty-second regiment, disability.

January 18th, Major R. A. Lanning, Ninth regiment, term expired.

January 19th, First Lieutenant M. E. Bassett, removed.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 26TH.

January 25th, One Hundred and Ninth regiment, Warren Wilcox, Captain, to promote the interest of the regiment.

January 25th, Fourteenth regiment Infantry, M. J. Gregory, First Lieutenant, business engagements.

January 25th, Fourth regiment Infantry, Peter Beigel, Second Lieutenant, removed from State.

January 25th, Twelfth regiment Infantry, James McCord, Second Lieutenant, removal.

January 25th, Fifteenth regiment Infantry, Stephen Clough, Captain, expiring term of service.

January 26th, First battalion Light Artillery, Twenty-fifth brigade, George B. Herrick, Adjutant, removal.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Jan. 24, 1867.

General Order No. 4.
The course of instruction for the National Guard for the year 1867 will consist of such exercises as the commanding officers may regard as particularly essential to increase the standing and efficiency of their respective commands.

Special attention should be paid to the company drills, and in securing a perfect knowledge of the lessons contained in the school of the soldier.

The battalion should be thoroughly drilled in the primary movements, as laid down in the school of the battalion.

The form of inspection and review, of guard mounting and dress parade, should receive careful attention.

Commanding officers of brigades and divisions should institute such a course of instruction and drill as will best develop a reliable and praiseworthy esprit de corps in their respective commands.

The Commander-in-Chief indulges the hope that every officer will so endeavor to discharge his duty as that the results of his efforts will reflect credit upon the reliability and standing of the National Guard.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

S. E. MARVIN, Adjutant-General.

Official: J. B. STONEHOUSE, Assistant Adjutant-General.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SECRETARY.—If the by-laws of your company state that all parties in arrears over a certain amount shall not have any vote in the company until such amount is settled, this provision is perfectly valid, as it does not conflict with the Code. We do not agree with the official opinion you quote in your letter. We certainly think that only those in good standing should be allowed to vote.

ENGINEER.—In the usual acceptance of the term, the "rank and file" of a regiment are the privates and non-commissioned officers of the companies of that regiment.

EX-ARMY OFFICER.—The new Army Bill provides for sixty paymasters with the rank of major. According to the last Army Register, there were twenty-four paymasters with the rank of major in the Regular service.

SIXTEENTH U. S. INFANTRY.

The following is a roster of the officers of the Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, formerly First battalion Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, and their stations, corrected up to Jan. 1, 1867:

Colonel Caleb C. Sibley, Savannah, Ga., commanding regiment and post; Lieutenant-Colonel Grotius R. Giddings, Brevet Colonel, Madison, Wis., Assistant Provost Marshal State of Wis.; Major Thomas W. Sweeney, Brevet Colonel, Augusta, Ga., commanding post and detachment Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant John E. Hosmer, Savannah, Ga., Regimental and Post Adjutant; First Lieutenant Charles E. Moore, Savannah, Ga., Regimental Quartermaster.

Captains—R. E. A. Crofton, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, Company A, Savannah, Ga., commanding company; Melville A. Cochran, Brevet Major (B), Bangor, Me., General Recruiting Service; Charles F. Trowbridge, Brevet Major (D), Atlanta, Ga., commanding post and detachment Sixteenth Infantry; Henry C. Cook (H), Augusta, Ga., commanding company; William H. Smyth, Brevet Major (E), Augusta, Ga., commanding company; Samuel E. St. Onge, Brevet Major (C), Savannah, Ga., commanding company; Patrick W. Houlihan (F), Fort Pulaski, Ga., commanding fort and company; William Mills (G), Atlanta, Ga., commanding company; A. S. Dagget (I), Augusta, Ga., commanding company.

First Lieutenants—Chas. W. Hotenpiller, Brevet Captain, Company A, Newport Barracks, Ky., on General Recruiting Service; James M. Ingalls (E), Augusta, Ga., Adjutant of the Post; Charles Keller, Jr. (F), Fort Pulaski, Ga., present; Robt. W. Bard (C), Savannah, Ga., present; Samuel McKeever (H), Washington, D. C., in charge of the Guard Executive Mansion; Charles S. Halsey (B), Griffin, Ga., commanding company; Robert Miller (K), Fort Pulaski, Ga., commanding company.

Second Lieutenants—James Miller, Company B, Griffin, Ga., present; Henry Catley (E), Augusta, Ga., present; Edwin R. Parks (H), Augusta, Ga., present; Abner Haines, Jr. (F), Fort Pulaski, Ga., present; James Ulio (A), Savannah, Ga., present; Luther S. Ames (I), Augusta, Ga., present; M. F. Gallagher (D), Atlanta, Ga., commanding company; Edwin B. Atwood (G), unknown, not joined; Horace B. Sarson (C), Savannah, Ga., present.

The following named officers of Colored Troops having received appointments in the Regular Army, and having been retained in service after the muster out of their regiments, have been mustered out, and honorably discharged the service of the United States, their services being no longer required: Major W. H. Danielson, One Hundred and Twenty-eighth; Brevet Major F. W. Watkins, One Hundred and Seventh.

CAPTAIN JAS. H. STRONG, U. S. N., has been detached from duty as Inspector at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and ordered to take command of the U. S. steamer *Camandigue*, now attached to the European Squadron.

APPEAL FOR THE LABOR AND AID ASSOCIATION.

THROUGH all those fearful years when our Constitution and our Flag were so ruthlessly assailed and so nobly defended, who of us, whether at home listening breathlessly for tidings from the Army, or in camp and hospital, tending the poor mutilated remnants of our heroic soldiers, and catching their murmured prayers for wives and children—did not call heaven to witness that those wives and children should be to us a most sacred legacy? And now that our Constitution is vindicated, ought we, as true Patriots, to be recreant to our promises or unmindful of our responsibilities?

It is this very class of sufferers the Labor and Aid Association seeks to benefit. Its design is to furnish to the wives and children of disabled soldiers, as well as to the widows and orphans of soldiers, such employment as is best suited to their several capacities, and will, if diligently pursued, place them above actual want. At 174 Hudson street (between Vestry and Laight), the Association has in operation a Laundry Department where daily employment is furnished—the Laundry now yields sufficient to pay the laborers in that department.

The Sewing department is less productive, but we hope, in due time, to make it likewise self-sustaining.

This is not a charity—our will is to give work at a fair compensation. The women have the privilege of bringing their children who are too young to go to school, and a cheerful room is provided where they are placed under the care of a motherly woman, a soldier's widow, during the working hours.

Family, hotel, and steamship washing done in the best manner, promptly and at low rates—the family washing is kept distinct from the other two.

To support the necessary outlays attending the successful working of the establishment, the board of managers must and do now appeal to public patriotism and liberality, engaging to exercise the utmost fidelity and economy in the expenditure of funds.

All disposed to aid so laudable an object can send contributions to Mrs. J. S. Gibbons, 19 Lamartine place, or to Miss Warren, 1 West 16th street. All requests for further information will be immediately replied to if addressed to any of the ladies composing the board of managers.

We take great pleasure in commending the above circular to attention. The character of the ladies who are interesting themselves in the enterprise is abundant guarantee of good faith.

VESSELS DESTROYED DURING THE WAR.—A table from the War Department shows the names and character of the various boats destroyed on the Mississippi river and its tributaries from May 1, 1861, to the surrender of Kirby Smith and the cessation of hostilities, June 2, 1865. An examination of this table shows that most of the boats were steamers, perhaps one-tenth being tug-boats, ferry-boats, etc. The following is a summary of the table of boats destroyed by the casualties of war: Captured and burned by the United States forces, 24, valued at or alleged to be worth six hundred and eighty-six thousand dollars; captured and burned by the Rebel forces, 19, valued at five hundred and eighteen thousand five hundred dollars; burned by United States forces to prevent capture, 10, valued at two hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars; burned by Rebel forces to prevent capture, 39, valued at one million two hundred and thirty-nine thousand dollars; sunk by Rebels to obstruct channels, 23, valued at eight hundred and forty-six thousand five hundred dollars; captured and burned by guerrillas, 28, valued at three hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars. The summary with regard to boats destroyed by accidental causes, is as follows: Burned by Rebel incendiaries, 29, valued at eight hundred and ninety-one thousand dollars; by striking snags, 65, valued at one million five hundred and forty thousand dollars; by sundry accidents, 28, valued at five hundred and seventy-two thousand dollars; by collisions, 7, valued at one hundred and thirteen thousand dollars; by explosion of boilers, 9, valued at two hundred and three thousand five hundred dollars; burned accidentally, 46, valued at one million thirty-five thousand five hundred dollars. The table further shows that thirty-four boats were lost in 1861, eighty-three in 1862, seventy-six in 1863, ninety-eight in 1864, and thirty-six in 1865. The aggregate of these figures is three hundred and twenty-seven boats destroyed, with a tonnage of one hundred and fifty-two thousand four hundred and fifty tons, valued, as alleged, at eight million two hundred and fifty-five thousand dollars.

NEW POWDER FOR THE HOOSAC TUNNEL.—The experiments at the Hoosac Tunnel with a new powder, invented by Dr. Ehrhardt, are more satisfactory than was expected. These experiments have been in progress a week at the central shaft, and it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that using the same holes one-half the quantity of the new powder will

do one-third more than the full quantity of the common blasting powder.

The Commissioners, awake to the advantages such powder would be to the work, have given the inventor, who has been very successful in many parts of the world with this powder, every facility. It is certain that with holes of larger dimensions the powder will do more than double the work of that used at present. It is safe in storage, being composed of two distinct materials, both incombustible when separate, but when simply mixed have an explosive power of nearly three times that of gunpowder.

MORE FENIAN ARMS TO BE BONDED.—The Buffalo Courier states that Major-General W. F. Barry has notified the Fenian leaders in Buffalo that the appraisement of the arms taken from the Fenians last June, and stored under his command at Erie, Pennsylvania; Fort Porter, Buffalo; Fort Ontario, Oswego; Madison Barracks, Sackett's Harbor, and Plattsburg Barracks, Plattsburg; has been completed by the ordnance officer detailed for duty, and their value fixed at \$101,266 31, and that they now only await their necessary bond, of double that amount, that they will not be used in violation of the neutrality laws, to be turned over to the organization claiming them. The bond will be executed in a day or two, and these arms, like those delivered up by the steamer Michigan, will be disposed of at public auction. The above arms constitute about one-fifth the property seized by the Government authorities from the Fenians last Summer. The remainder will be delivered up as soon as similar forms have been complied with.

DEVLIN & Co., whose advertisement is found elsewhere in our columns, are the proprietors of two extensive clothing warehouses in Broadway, New York. While this enterprising firm offer for sale a very large variety of citizens' clothing at very reasonable rates, they also furnish uniforms for officers of the Army, Navy and Militia with promptness and in the best style.

MARRIED.

(Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.)

POWELL-ROSS.—On the 23d ult., at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, by the Rev. Mr. Aspinwall, Brevet Major H. H. POWELL, U. S. Army, to KATE MARGARET ROSS. No cards.

HUGHES-GRAYSON.—At St. John's Church, Liverpool, England, December 15, 1866, by the Rev. George Hewitt, Lewis HUGHES, late Captain Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, and Brevet Major U. S. Volunteers, to ELIZABETH, youngest daughter of the late Captain Grayson.

MYRICK-MOORE.—On Tuesday, January 22d, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. George Bushnell, Brevet Major JOHN R. MYRICK, Third U. S. Artillery, to HATTIE A., daughter of H. R. MOORE, Esq., of Beloit, Wis.

NORTH AMERICA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

OFFICE, 63 WILLIAM STREET.
This Company offers advantages to the public superior to any similar institution in the United States. All its Policies are non-forfeiting and incontestable, and allow the largest liberty for residence and travel. OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY are insured, in time of peace, at the usual table rates for civilians, and in the event of hostilities or war, will be charged nothing for the increased hazard.

By a recent Act of the Legislature of the State of New York, this Company is authorized to make Special Deposits with the Superintendent of the Insurance Department, and receive therefor RECOGNIZED POLICIES, bearing the seal of the Department, and a Certificate that the Policy is secured by Pledge of Public Stocks, under a Special Trust, created by the Act of the Legislature in favor of "North America Life Insurance Company" exclusively. This makes every Registered Policy as secure to the holder as a National Bank Note, or a United States Bond.

The Officers of this Company have been long engaged in the business of Life Insurance, and are determined to use their large fund of experience in settling in every thing which may tend to the interest of its members, and to make it.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THIS CONTINENT. All our Life and Endowment Policies are non-forfeiting after three annual Premiums have been paid, to the whole amount paid to the Company, thus securing to your heirs every dollar invested, whether you can continue your policy till death or not. Thirty days' grace allowed on any renewal payment, and the policy held good. Dividends declared annually. Communications by letter promptly answered.

N. D. MORGAN, President.
T. T. MERWIN, V. President.
J. W. MERRILL, Secretary.

CLERGYMEN would find much interesting matter in THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL to be found nowhere else.

THE BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS OF DENMARK AND THE YOUNG CARRIAGE OF RUSSIA; EMINENT AMERICAN DIVINES, including the Reverend Doctors STEVENS, THOMSON, DUBIN, McCINTOCK, MORRIS, JAMES, SIMPSON, WHELAN, AMES, NAST, ELLIOTT, and HAVEN; also, Hon. J. M. HOWARD, Captain E. B. WARD, and KERR-KERR, the Australian Cannibal; "YOUR LIKENESS," by Rev. Dr. Weston; Self-Government; Pope's Essay on Man, etc., in February number PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. Only 20 cents, or \$2 a year. Address FOWLER & WELLS, 359 Broadway, New York.

MECHANICS should read THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, and learn how to select toys to learn trades.

LAWYERS should read THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL, that they may read the characters of clients and culprits.

FINE WATCHES

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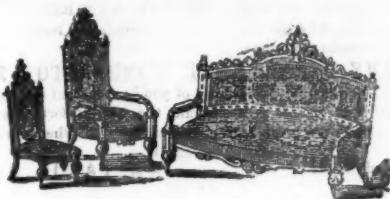
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